



OUT ON A LIMB

Volume XI, Number 1
Whole Number 21
January 1998

THE MONEY TREE

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RARE, IMPORTANT, and CHOICE MEDALS and TOKENS in SILVER, GOLD, and PLATINUM

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THE MONEY TREE,

1260 SMITH COURT,

ROCKY RIVER, OH 44116.

Phone (440) 333-3444 or Fax (440-333-4463).

From 9:30AM through 3:30PM daily, Eastern time.

[No one is in the office during the noon hour. We go out for lunch.]

OUT ON A LIMB

THE JOURNAL OF *THE MONEY TREE*

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Vol. XI No. 1

Whole No. 21

January 1998

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Myron Xenos, NLG

Publisher of The Money Tree Publications

ANA member since 1961. ANS, C4, EAC, NBS, JRCS, TAMS

Ken Lowe, NLG

Editor of The Money Tree Publications

ANA, C4, CSNS, EAC, NBS, JRCS, TAMS, USCCS

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome to our first issue of 1998. [And I just got used to writing "1975" on my checks.] For five consecutive years, we [actually I] have promised that we would be issuing at least three issues of OUT ON A LIMB per year. For five consecutive years, I have not kept that promise. Well, much as Charlie Brown naively believes Lucy when she says that THIS TIME she will not pull the football away, I ask you to believe that this year ... really ... honestly ... no joke ... scout's honor ... we will issue at least three issues of OUT ON A LIMB in 1998.

The highlight of this issue is the offering of the "HOMREN HOARD" of issues of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS, a hoard that had been ignored, overlooked, and/or forgotten for half a century. We are thrilled to tell you the tale. We are also honored to be the exclusive distributors of these issues. [See page 22]

Also in these pages are Myron's New York A.N.A. diary; my trip to the final session of the Katen library sale, a humbling one at that; two articles by Karl Moulton about collecting auction catalogues; Remy Bourne's historic sale of the Dick Punchard Library; a neat letter from Richard Mantia; some additional fixed price offerings from the shelves of The Money Tree, in addition to the "Homren Hoard"; and finally some observations from the research files of the late Armand Champa.

We also plan to have three mail bid sales of numismatic literature this year. The tentative schedule for them is: late February, late June-ish, and Halloween-ish. The "February" sale will feature material mostly pertaining to North American numismatics: classic, rare, and important books. Also offered will be the rest of the material from the Armand Champa estate and from the George Hatie estate, and of course, other neat stuff.

Finally, stay tuned as The Money Tree Press will be quite active this year. We will be releasing at least one truly important new numismatic book. We will also be issuing some additional Money Tree monographs. This year should be a lot of fun.

TRUE Confessions

from the



OR NEW YORK, NEW YORK - It's so nice, they say it twice

[TRUE CONFESSIONS FROM THE BIG APPLE]

July 31. Five A.M. I guess I was trying to save the cost of one night in NY. This would be my 11th consecutive A.N.A. convention. 1986 was my 25th year in the A.N.A., but I couldn't go so they had to mail me my silver 25-year A.N.A. membership medal. Daryl (my wife and Money Tree bookkeeper) and I got to Cleveland Hopkins Airport as the sun was rising, and the excitement had already started. A FedEx plane had crashed at Newark Airport (a Continental hub), so half the people in the line at Continental Airlines had to be rerouted or cancelled. We, however, had a fine flight contrary to my partner's incessant claptrap about the shortcomings of Continental. I think he is becoming a conspiratorial theorist. [Editor's rebuttal: please refer to EVERY account of my harrowing experiences flying Continental or Air Yugo as I prefer to call them, in this and the preceding 20 issues of LIMB.]

We arrived at LaGuardia at 9:10 A.M. We claimed our luggage and hailed a cab. (True Confession No. 1 -- I never thought that within 2 hours of leaving Cleveland air space that we would actually be in a cab, luggage in hand, and on our way to the city.) Mo, our cabbie (they are all named Mo or Ach), pressed the meter, and some recorded star's voice told us to fasten our seat belts. Now, we are on the cutting edge of a really novel idea, a voice in a cab speaking ... English! We arrived in one piece [Editor's note: didn't they get into the cab as two pieces?] at the Milford Plaza, 44th and 8th, cost including tip \$26.

10 A.M. We got a room key in 5 minutes flat, and were OK'd to go right up to room 741. Upon arriving at room 741, the cleaning lady told us that another couple had just gotten the room 10 minutes earlier. Back to the front desk. "Sorry, here are the keys to room 621". OK. We try room 621 -- the keys don't work. Back to the front desk, part deux. "Sorry, here are the keys to room 715". No problem says I. Daryl and I having recently returned from a trip to Jamaica [which really made me feel old because none of the natives offered me reed, whack! tabaccl,

Mary Jane, or Doobie, and it appeared I was the only guy on the ship who hadn't been approached -- the Captain included, but I digress]. Room 715 was adequate, although I have friends whose closets are bigger.

Lunchtime: Hey, there's a deli right downstairs. 2 sandwiches & beverages, \$23 plus tip ["New York, New York, a helluva town. The Bronx is up and the Battery's down..."].

Off to the show across the street which was spread out over 3 or 4 floors so that the dealers, exhibitors, and lecture rooms could all fit. That's OK, there are escalators, well, almost always. More on that later. Made quick visits to see George Kolbe, Frank Van Zandt, Ray Burns, Harry Jones, Joel Orosz, Remy Bourne, Gordie Frost, Julian Leidman, and John Adams.

QDB was at his table, so I took a few minutes to show him photocopies of my Sage tokens for his book. Mail them to me, he said, I have to measure them, weigh them, and examine them for die varieties. They are on the way as I write this. [Editor's note: they were later purchased by QDB.] Of course by the time we print this, Dave will have written, edited, published, and sold out his new book on Augustus Sage tokens, and it will be in the fifteenth printing of the second edition.

More friends: We located the Sklows, Dave & Sherry, who are currently residing in Delaware; formerly of New Mexico; Port St. Lucie, Florida; Guam, and other places I can't seem to locate on my globe. Sheridan Downey had a table in an innocuous corner, but it certainly didn't seem to negatively affect his business. Also, hellos with Brad Karoleff, P. Scott Rubin, James Taylor (ANA education guru and master of the white cap), Bill Swoger, and the inscrutable Col. Bill Murray.

3PM already: time flies when you're having fun, and it was time for the Bust Half Nuts to meet. Dr. Glenn Peterson gave a talk explaining how his forthcoming book on bust halves will be laid out so that the variety collectors will be able to identify through photographs and systematic text, each of the 450 different "Overton" die combinations. Glenn also presented Brad Karoleff with a huge red pencil as a reward for his comprehensive, or maybe compulsive editing of the first half of Glenn's book. Some more schmoozing, and a stop at the Portland (1998 A.N.A. Convention) booth where a lovely young lass (is that word PC? ... that's politically correct, not personal computer) gave us information about things that we can do at next year's A.N.A. Daryl made sure that week is carved into our schedule next summer.

Back to our closet, er ... room at the Milford for a quick shuteye, actually both eyes, and expectations of the upcoming festivities at the Lorings. Daryl & I met the Sklow's in the hotel lobby. I went outside to hail a cab, New York style. It worked!! One of the thousand cabs making a hasty start from the light at the corner squealed over to the curb where we were standing. Daryl, and the Sklows got in the back seat. I was riding shotgun, or maybe Uzi would be the more operative term. I mumbled the Lorings' address to the cabbie, again the recorded voice of a famous person gave us the obligatory instructions, and we were off ... like a race car exiting the pits. The back seaters were frozen in horror, and Sherry's arms were fixed dead ahead to the front seat in living rigor mortis. (True Confession No. 2 -- I really am a New York cab driver, only I drive that way in Cleveland. If I ever give up my day job)

We screeched to a halt in front of a very tall building which was next to a very high, heavily-gated Victorian building about 10 or 15 stories high which was the Dakota where John Lennon was living until he wasn't any more. The very tall building, as it turned out, houses Denis and Donna Loring, who are cozily nestled in a co-op on the 33rd floor of the building looking over the Dakota onto Central Park. If you are the very least acrophobic, from the balcony your knees will wobble at the sight of it all. The view was absolutely indescribable, so I am not going to describe it. (True Confession No. 3 -- I turned green ... with envy at the concept of it all. Fortunately, I resisted all-out jealousy.)

We had arrived right on time, and miracle of all miracles, our names were on the guard's list [Editor's comment -- that was because Continental Airlines was not involved], so we didn't have to overpower him to get on the elevator. Fifteen minutes after our arrival, the Loring's doorbell rang. Denis opened it, and like a wave of Asians overrunning the 38th parallel in Korea circa 1952, we attacked the dining area replete with innumerable trays of outrageously delicious Chinese food. I thanked Heaven above (whose location at this point was much closer) that I had arrived before John Burns (Editor's note: John, remember Myron wrote this) and assorted others whom I have previously seen eat.

This is usually the point at which Ken tackles the list of attendees, with the usual caveats about omitting Dave Lange or anyone else. On the other hand, I don't intend to leave anyone out because Daryl and I methodically, albeit surreptitiously, compiled a list during the party: Denis & Donna Levin Loring, Michael Hodder, P. Scott Rubin, Remy Bourne, Phil Carrigan, Mark Borckardt, George Kolbe, Brad Karoleff, Rich Reinhardt, John & Nancy Wilson, Joel Orosz, Martin Gengerke, Gordon Frost, John Huffman, Henry Axelrod, Dave Lange, Frank Van Zandt, Dave Hirt, Dave & Sherry Sklow, Daryl & me, also a six-foot cardboard Klingon (I said that I didn't want to omit ANYONE), and a nearly life-sized, upside-down, anatomically-correct, Lion holding up a glass-top table -- a gift to Donna from an aunt who never forgot the plaintive pleadings of a 7-year old who said (and haven't we all). "If you ever want to get rid of that fill-in-the-blank, I'd love to have it."

Of course, Denis has a numismatic library, a large cent researcher/numismatic bibliophile's true fantasy cum obsession. Donna appears to be very gracious about it. With the rest of us drooling, Denis strategically placed boxes of Handi-Wipes around the library [Editor's note -- Wouldn't bibs have also been appropriate?] to solve the problem of sweet-and-sour sauce on his books. I dutifully used one, but I think it was before I ate, or maybe not.

As the Numismatic Literary Guild Bash was at 9PM, the gathering began to ungather. Denis had a box of duplicate stuff (books not kung-pao chicken) at the door and invited us to help ourselves. I got a Harmer Rooke I didn't have. [Editor's note: yes he did.] A group of us riding down the elevator came across 2 residents wanting to go up. I think they mumble something which sounded suspiciously like, "There goes the neighborhood."

Across from the hotel is Charley O's, complete with tables outdoor on the sidewalk. Oooooohhh, trendy. So two Sklows and two Xenoses sat down at a four-top for a drink. Well, make that two. Halfway through the first one, I looked up at the emerging countenance of John Burns, who joined us for a while. For me -- 2 Long Island Iced Teas, well-made, enough is enough. (True Confession No. 4 ... 2 of those things and my brain cells abandon ship) Is it Friday yet?

Friday morning 8AM. Breakfast at Lord Camelot, a Greek breakfast joint with livable prices. Grabbed the NY Times. Oh great, first the FedEx plane crashes, and now terrorist bombers are caught just before they have a chance to blow up the subway. ("I Love New York") Speaking of subway, half an hour later Daryl and I are subwaying to Flushing to find a Chinese furniture importer we had previously talked to about getting some furniture we had a ven for. [Editor's comment: I don't even have the nerve to sink to that depth for that line.] It was nice to know that we weren't going to get blown up ... today, at least. After two hours of roaming around an Oriental import warehouse with Sam & Amy, the most gracious owners, we left with a badly bent credit card and the responsibility of arranging for shipping the stuff back to Ohio. By the way, the third article in the NY Times was about the impending UPS strike. Oh, goody.

Back on the subway, from Flushing to mid-town Manhattan ("... from Memphis to St. Paul....") There was a movie in the late fifties called BLACKBOARD JUNGLE that foretold in its own particular way of things to come, except for the graffiti. The hammering of the subway train wheels brought back the memories of the time that I saw the movie as a teenager (in the Pleistocene Age). Still it was an interesting experience. (True Confession No. 5 -- I could

spend days riding the different routes of the N.Y. subway system and enjoying perusing the panoply of people populating the perambulator.)

Lunch at Mav's Pizza. Anyone who stumbles on that little place in the theatre district will have an enjoyable meal: things like white pizza with ricotta cheese, fresh fruit plates, and more. Back to the show. Talk with Dave Sklow and George Fitzgerald, waved to Don Young, visited with George Kolbe whose table was replete with numismatic bibbiphylles of all sizes and shapes. A favorite stop of mine, and yours if you were fortunate to visit was the NGC (Numismatic Guaranty Corporation) table, manned by Dave Lange who presided over a showcase housing a few modest coins on loan: Jay Parrino's Brasher Doubloon, the Idler and the Cohen 1804 dollars, and 1836 proof set, an 1832 proof-68 bust half from the Eliasberg auction, and the 1913 liberty head nickel that I remember as the Aubrey Bebee nickel which Bebee gleefully showed to many of us after he had purchased it for the then incomprehensible sum of \$46,000. I don't think they did the 10% buyer's premium at that time.

It was neat to see it again for the third time. Of course, now it was worth just a wee bit more. The second time we had seen it was at the A.N.A. headquarters. At any rate the NGC table was truly eye candy for the coin buff. Consider me buffed? [Editor's note: If you spend too much looking at the NGC table, would you develop numismatic diabetes?]

Off to the World Series of Numismatics. (True Confession No. 6 -- I am a game show junkie.) If you have never participated in or attended a World Series of Numismatics, ask yourself why not? This is the very essence of what collecting coins is all about. [Editor's note: you mean it's not about greed?] Remember knowledge is power, time is money, and money talks. My money says adios. Where am I going with this?

As usual, James Taylor ("I've seen fire and I've seen rain") operated the antiquated scoring device, which was fully depreciated eons ago, and predates the abacus. It would be nice if the A.N.A. powers that be might actually consider something more up-to-date, maybe something electronic. The able Wendell Wolka took his usual place at the microphone and did an admirable job of fielding the barbs thrown at him from the peasants in the cheap seats. Of course he did introduce John Burns team in error ... instead of the Celts as the Gelts -- a Freudian slip which no Scotsman would ever wear under his kilt. Gail Kraljevich did her usual cheery job of turning numbers at the scoring board. The one question which remained unanswered is, "what is under James Taylor's white cap?" [Editor's note: the reader submitting the best answer to that question will win a one-year subscription to OUT ON A LIMB. The Second Place winner will win a two-year subscription.]

An early exit was in store for Daryl and me, as we were meeting the Sklow's for dinner at Tavern on the Green. Another great cab ride. (It might even have been the same cab driver, for all I know.) We arrived at the Tavern, truly an institution in the city. Before you can say "What about the 21 Club", I'll jump in and say that I don't like to pay a fortune for overpriced foodstuffs served at a redwood picnic table that has to be lifted out for half the guests to sit on a bench on the inside. 'nuff said. Back to the Tavern. I spent several wayward years salvaging architectural goodies from buildings (Tiffany stained glass windows, oak church pews, crystal doorknobs), primarily houses and churches. [Editor's note -- many of those buildings were actually unoccupied at the time. Incidentally, do any of you need VCR's, CB's, or color TV's cheap?] Regardless of the treasures that I had previously rescued, I was truly nonplussed (as opposed to being plussed) at the superb art glass lamps & windows at the Tavern. The service was gracious, the salmon was done to perfection, the long-island iced tea was well-poured, the dessert was adeptly presented, and the apres-meal coffee was merely \$3.75 per cup. All the way to NYC and who was seated at the next table but Harry Jones, Ossie Oswald and their respective spouses. They also seemed well-fed and content.

After a meal like that, who can resist a horse & buggy ride. Well, maybe who can, but we (Sklovs and Xenoses) couldn't. so it was into the buggy for a 20-minute trip through Central

Park. Mercifully the horse wasn't suffering from bouts of flatulence as was our horse at the Atlanta convention a few years back. [Editor's note: I have missed 3 A.N.A.'s since The Money Tree began: 1987 & 1997 -- 2 flatulent horses, & 1990 Seattle -- an unwashed Walter Breen & 4 others crammed in Del Bland's compact car. I must be prescient.]

The evening wasn't finished yet. Over to the Marriott where signs warned that non-registered guests would be charged \$5.00 per head (the rest of the body was free) to have a seat at The View, the top (48th) rotating floor of the Marriott. To get to The View, it was necessary to get to the 9th floor by escalator. Upon reaching the 8th floor, the darnedest thing happened; the escalator stopped dead, unceremoniously thrusting several of us forward. Not having the presence of mind to fall down and to start moaning for an ambulance, we walked up the rest of the steps to the 9th floor elevator which took us to "The View". A table for four, the waitress explaining the \$5.00 fee and 4 drinks at \$8.50 per. That came to ... \$54.00 ("If you can make it there, you'll make it anywhere ...") and one 360 degree rotation. Or in other words, for each dollar spent, we traveled 6.67 degrees. After all of that travelling it was time to call it a night. So we all called, "A Night!"

Saturday began with breakfast at Lord Camelot's. (Don't change a good thing.) Back to the show where I stopped at the YN (Young Numismatists) gathering to say hi to some folks. Be nice to those YN's; let them go forth and multiply. For they are the ones who will someday purchase your stuff. It was good to see such an active and noisy crowd. We need more people like Florence Schook who will spend time and money on the hobby's future. If you don't accept this, just ask someone who collects stamps for a hobby. The average age of the collector tells the story. [Editor's Note: The average age of the average stamp collector is dead-for-two-years.] Nearly any 70 year old U.S. coin in choice condition is worth some premium. I don't think I've ever spent a 70 year old coin. However, I am using choice 70 year old stamps for postage; some plate blocks, in fact. This copy of LIMB may even have some of those old stamps on the envelope.

Off of the soapbox and on to the show. I saw Marie Jones, Harry's significant other, who told me that she was on her way to see her fifth Broadway or off-Broadway show of the week. Makes good sense considering that the show was right in the heart of the theatre district. [Editor's note: During the convention, the Sklows saw "Phantom of the Opera" - sixth row center. In the crowded lobby Dave noticed the famous, and famously-mustachioed Rollie Fingers, former Oakland A's star relief pitcher, and now in the Hall-of-Fame. Upon Dave's speaking with him, Mr. Fingers thanked Dave for remembering him. Ah, fame is fleeting, but styrofoam peanuts are forever.]

More convention schmoozing with Carl Feldman, Charles Kirtley, Tom Rinaldo, Chris Victor-McCawley, Vince Alones, Frank Wilkinson, Fred Schwan, and a host of others whom I forgot because I also forgot to bring my pocket recorder to the convention. Lunch at Ray's again: veggie pizza, fresh fruit and an MGD. Back to the show where I bought some Sage tokens, some Conder tokens, a Spanish 8 real, and another colonial copper -- I buy one colonial at every A.N.A. convention. It was then that someone passed by me while I was engrossed in some coin or token, but when I turned no one was there. (True Confession no. 7 -- I am still unsure of things supernatural.) It could have been Armand Champa, or George Hatle, or Hy Brown. I'm sure they were there. After all, they haven't missed an A.N.A. in years, so who's to say they missed this one. Not me!

Hey, wake up Myron. It's time for the Silver Dollar Collectors Club meeting. Jeff Oxman was the speaker, a very informative and interesting one at that. Now I know a lot of interesting people. I know a lot of informative people. But I don't hardly know any who are both. Jeff and Dr. Michael Fey (also in attendance) wrote the VAM 100 book, a cribber's small guide to the rarest 100 Van Allen-Mallis Morgan dollar varieties. I'm an old dollar guy from way back, actually an old, old old-dollar guy, and I listened and I learned. (True Confession no. 8 -- I'm sorry I lost faith in the old cartwheels for a while in the seventies - that's the 1970's, otherwise I would be writing this story from my beach house somewhere in the Caribbean.)

Which brings me to the ultimate funniest story of the show as I heard it. It seems that Jeff Oxman (VAMbookman) went to an auction of silver dollars. While searching for a seat in the very crowded auction room, he spied one next to a rather large (1 1/2 seats) and grumpy fellow whose auction catalogues and stuff took up another 1 1/2 seats. Said fellow after a minor bout of mumbles and grumbles finally decided to offer a seat to whoever this guy is -- our aforementioned Mr. Oxman. Jeff sat down with some trepidation (I have to look up that word sometime, but not now) and saw that the large-guy had a little, burgundy-colored, VAM 100 book sitting on his stack. Now, if you know Jeff, you would know that he was licking his chops as he asked mountainous-man what that little burgundy-colored book was. In response, Jabba-the-Butt, in his best and most arrogantly grumbly voice muttered, "You wouldn't understand." In response, at the moment of truth, Jeff smiled and said, "Oh?" (True Confession no. 9 -- I have an unpublished list of things I would have said, but none would have been as meaningful as Jeff's smile.)

Off to George Kolbe's table where we made arrangements for dinner. After the show, Daryl & I met George and Mark Borckardt, I snagged another cab and pointed toward the Hudson River. In a heartbeat, or in Mark's case, a totally stopped heart, we arrived at 26 Hudson, a newly-renovated restaurant. We got a table river-side (that's inside river-side, not outside river-side). I had salmon, but I don't know about the others. We were all having too much fun eating, talking, drinking, and telling a lot of stories out of school. I only wish I could repeat them, but I drank a lot so I would forget them. I did. A great two hours with friends, then back to the Milford.

Daryl, who always knows both what direction to go, and also how to find bargains, informed me that we could take a limousine to the airport for the same price as a cab. Hey! Tomorrow is my birthday! Why not? I called for a reservation, packed, hit the sack, and waited for Sunday, the day I would turn 59. It was suddenly Sunday. The limo arrived, and we were on our way back to LaGuardia and home. The limo driver went slightly slower than the cabbie, and since it was Sunday and the traffic was minimal, the driver earned himself an extra \$3.50 by avoiding the toll bridge and taking a slightly more circuitous route. We got to go in style, and it gave me a chance to reflect on my views of New York and my city upbringing. It gets in my blood and I need a regular infusion of city madness. New York is just Cleveland on steroids, 15 times as large, swallowing 5 whole counties, and displaying an intensity found few other places in the world. [Editor's comment -- Thank heaven!] New York was everything everyone said it was, everything everyone said it wasn't. Everything good and everything bad. [Editor's note -- Good grief, New York is "A Tale of Two Cities".] It was everything and more that I could ask for. (Confession no. 10 -- I love New York!)

THE KATENS' 84TH (OR 85TH) AND FINAL (OR MAYBE NOT) SALE

In mid-June I received my catalogue of the Katens' 84th [and probably last] Public and Mail Bld Sale [July 11-12, 1997]. In mid-June I also retired after 30 years as a high school English teacher -- just bragging. It is still inordinately difficult and it still makes me quite uncomfortable to call Mr. & Mrs. Katen "Frank & Laurese". For the uninitiated Frank and Laurese are the godparents of modern numismatic literature. At the time of this sale Frank was 94! He turns 95 on January 29, 1998, and according to phone call from Laurese this evening (December 5, 1997) Frank's health is really good, much improved over this summer when he seemed every bit of being 60 (Not bad considering that he was 94). Among the physical differences between Frank and me are that he has more hair, I have a stronger prescription on my glasses, Frank's blood pressure (without medication) is 20 points lower than mine (with medication), and I have one more bad knee than he does. I can't wait to be Frank's age so that my health will improve.

I looked forward to attending the sale for a variety of reasons: seeing the Katens again, visiting the Baltimore area (one of my favorite locations), seeing our Baltimore bidder friends who would attend the auction, bidding on a slew of neat things in the auction, and ... seafood! Fresh crab cakes made ... fresh! Crab soup made with real crab!

Remy Bourne had phoned to tell me that for Avis (Remy's wife) and him to fly to Baltimore from Minneapolis, they would have to change planes in Cleveland. Perhaps I could get a seat on the same plane from Cleveland to Baltimore. One quick call to the travel agent -- a "fait accompli". Neat! We could share car rental [Actually Remy picked up the whole tab]. We could also stay in the same hotel. Explanation, our friendship predates our business relationship. In fact, the only profit in our relationship is the one the phone company makes from our frequent and lengthy long-distance phone calls. The cost of our respective flights, room charge, food, and expenses might actually turn out to cost less than our phone bills.

Who knew that this would turn out to be a particularly noteworthy experience for me?

This would be the first leg of what would be my summer numismatic world tour. So let the games begin. [Don't tell Myron that the Continental flight was perfect in every way, except as is the norm, Continental stewardesses -- oops -- flight attendants don't smile. I think it's in their contract.]

The sale was to be held at the Greenbelt Marriott Hotel in Greenbelt, Maryland, A Washington-Baltimore suburb. On a strictly personal greedy note, I couldn't wait for the sale because the sale included a bunch of neat medals that I coveted, some literature that I had been looking for, and some sleepers that I hoped to acquire.

Friday evening: the Katens, Avis & Remy, & I arrived at the Marriott at about 5:00. I thought it was a bit warm outside. Then I saw a thermometer on a bank building that read 104 degrees. I was okay until I saw then sign. If I had not seen the sign I would have been okay. But after the 104 degrees registered in my mind [I think it was 104 degrees celsius] I became really uncomfortable until we got into the air-conditioned refuge of the Marriott. I wanted to get something to eat prior to the sale, but the fancy dining room would not open for an hour. However, said the deskclerk, Remy and I could get sandwiches at the bar. Not my preference but ... OK, I guess. The bar was populated by trendy yuppie and pre-yuppie types. The very courteous waitress brought us menus. Look-out! Crab chowder and crab cakes! I truly have no idea what Remy had as I was too busy glomming my soup and cakes. Halfway through my meal, Remy left; to be replaced at my table by Avis. I consumed two large bowls of crab chowder, among the best bowls of soup I have ever inhaled. I also have a tendency to

drink a lot of iced tea with my meals -- I thing I had three pitchers. I had two huge, absolutely superb crab cakes. The tab for my meal and trough of iced tea was about \$12.00. I would gladly have paid double that for half as much. The reason that I have mentioned the Marriott so often is because its bar has my highest recommendation for its FOOD!

At the auction. Laurese and Frank had ordered trays of cold-cuts and cheeses, and various beverages for the assembled multitudes attending the auction. Class acts.

The first session Friday night at 7:00PM, 862 lots. Well, Frank and Laurese who call their own auctions have slowed down a blt. This was going to a long session. It sure was. I remember at an EAC meeting several years ago, someone mentioning that Denis Loring had once called over 300 lots in an hour! Slowpoke. The first 862 lots in 2 hours and 10 minutes! An average of about 400 lots an hour. Warp speed. ["Keptain, she's gonna blow!"] This is not to say that the Katens were flawless. I distinctly remember one lot having to be reviewed. Laurese Katen can call an auction for me anytime!

Among the attendees were John Huffman and Gordon Frost, regulars at the Katen sales. John is a jack-of-all trades at the auctions; filling out invoices, representing other bidders, keeping track of all bidders, and doing windows. Gordie does everything except windows. Also present were Phil Carrigan, Julian Leldman, Dave Hirt, Al Buonaguro, and about 15 others.

The Katen Library sales complemented the Bowers & Merena sales of the Champa library. While the Champa sales offered more high priced material, much of the Katen material (generally, but not always more moderately priced) contained many pieces lacking in the Champa sale, and of great importance in a variety of fields. As superb as the Champa sales were (and they were), high prices do not always reflect rarity and/or importance.

In the first session, I got some Numismatic Literary Guild ephemera, some auction catalogues from the 1860's, fixed price lists about numismatic literature from a variety of important and from obscure dealers. Most important for me was the opportunity to obtain a slew of early and scarce fixed price lists issued by the Katens that would nearly complete my set. Got every one that I needed. [Yesss!!!]

After the auction, it was back to the Katens' home for a post-mortem. Present were the Bournes, Huffman, Carrigan, Frost, and me. Coffee, cake, conversation, good fellow-ship and lady-ship. Myron and I began our partnership in the mid-1980's. By the mid-1980's there had already been 63 Katen auctions. The Katens had long ago earned the respect and admiration of the numismatic fraternity. Giants. I can only compare my being there to sitting around with Joe DiMaggio or Lou Gehrig. Wow! Around midnight, Frank and Laurese were just warming up, but the rest of us were heading South fast. So all the non-Katens headed motelward.

Saturday, the Katens, Avls & Remy, & I arrived at the Marriott at about 11:00. And who to my wondrous eyes did appear but good friends Dave & Sherry Sklow. The Bournes, Sklows, Frank Katen & I decided to get some lunch before the 1:00PM auction session. At my recommendation [Hell, I would have crawled over barbed wire], we went to the selfsame bar for lunch. We got there right as the bar was opening -- so early that the assistant manager of food services was our server, as no other employees had yet arrived. Again, I don't remember (and frankly don't care) what the others had. I had three bowls of crab chowder and one order of crab cakes; and maybe either 2 or 3 pitchers of iced tea.

Saturday's 1:00PM session. The remaining 900 lots. By the way, the Katens had trays of cheeses and fruit brought in for this session. This session had the one particular piece I wanted blttime. Lot "985. W. Elliot Woodward, Roxbury, MA, a long handwritten letter and signed by him discussing the upcoming Mickley auction." The lot had no estimated value. Anyway you cut it, this is a sexy piece. Entirely handwritten by Woodward about a seminal

sale in American numismatics. How much to bid? Who would the serious players be? The first thing was to view the piece which I had done the previous afternoon, and had done again this morning. Remy and I looked at it together. I checked the letter, held it up to light; I almost wore a hole through it by looking at it so intensely. In the previous weeks before the sale, I had spent many hours going through hundreds of catalogues, FPL's, journals -- every resource I had access to in order to research this piece. Nada. I talked to everyone I could whom I felt would not be interested in the piece. [No sense in helping out your potential competitors.]

By any standard, I was certain that this piece was unique, historic -- a centerpiece of Woodwardiana. I had to have it. Of course, I was not going to get the piece for \$5.00. I was not about to pay \$10,000. So -- somewhere in between, but where? Remember, the Katens' mailing list reaches more people than does Ed MacMahon's "You may already be a weiner ... Oops, winner!" I discreetly scouted out my competition. Who was at the auction? Could I discern whom the attendees were representing? I sincerely believed that I had done all that I could to prepare myself for bidding on this lot. Numismatic friends of mine had told me about the limits of their bids on this lot. Lots of interest. Apparently, none above \$250.00. I was easily willing to bid more. I set a mental limit of \$500, but figured I'd get it for about \$350, max. Remy was beside me to the left. The Skiows were on my right. I like to sit at the very back of the room when I bid so I can see who my competition is. [There's nothing like having a mysterious bidder behind you in the darkness to frustrate you.]

The bidding opened at \$25.00. There were a few other bidders to the \$75 dollar level. There was a book bid to about \$200. Then I caught John Huffman raising a bidding paddle -- a bidding paddle that did not have his bidder number on it. It had the bidder number of a midwestern gentleman of whom no one's else's pockets are as deep. However, this gentleman has at times shown a financial discipline in bidding. Also however, many other times his arm will stay up longer than the Statue of Liberty's.

Then it was Huffman and me. Staring directly at each other. Neither of us blinking. Blood would flow in the aisles. I had gone too far to turn back. I wanted this piece. I would keep it for a long time. I really had no intention of ever selling it, so my making a profit on it at some time in the future was not really a factor. After the bidding hit \$500, I saw John look down at some notes in front of him. I took that to mean he was approaching his limit. Those who attended the Bowers & Merena Ellasberg auctions, or the more recent Pittman auction saw bidding on various items going up at \$25,000 or \$50,000 increments. By those standards, our bidding was chump change. But by numismatic literature standards for a piece of ephemera, this was bigtime.

Then by \$25.00 increments, back-and-forth and \$600 was reached. I had bought some pieces earlier for less than I had budgeted so I rationalized that I could apply that unbid money to this lot. Huffman at \$650. Me at \$675. Huffman at \$700. Okay, that's it. I had a virtually unlimited budget, but I had just about reached it. One more bid, then Huffman can have it. Me at \$725. Huffman at ... He stopped. The good news ... I got the piece. The bad news ... I got the piece. \$725 + 10% for a Woodward letter. Woof!

Over the rest of the sale, I picked up some medals I had been chasing for a while, and some scarce pieces of literature. But I had to admit the Woodward letter was going to one for the books [or OUT ON A LIMB]. Little did I know. Then all too soon it was over. The last 900 lots even faster than the previous session. Less than 2 hours without a hitch. And that includes a 15-minute break in the middle. Laurese is amazing!

Saturday night, the Katens invited the Bournes, Huffman and Frost, and me to their country club for dinner. [Yours truly at a country club is definitely like brown shoes with a tuxedo.] Problem: sport coats were mandatory. I did not bring one. I have a major aversion to sport coats and/or ties. John Huffman graciously offered to loan me one of his. Extraordinarily, it was a perfect fit. Small problem. Even in the air-conditioned recesses of the country club

dining room, the sport coat made me seem a bit ... shall we say warm. [For our new readers, my preferred leisure temperature is ... cold enough to hang meat! I use my car air-conditioner year round.] But, in this sumptuous surrounding, I would keep a stiff upper lip. [However, it was my other parts that would begin to melt.] Again, good company. Service by a professional hoard of servers. "Your wish is our command." Superb food. Most of the others were Prime Ribbing - each serving the size of Rhode Island. I opted for pasta covered with every shellfish species known [and unknown] to humankind.

John excused himself from the table. Never to appear again. After his being gone for 20 minutes, Gordie offered to go find him. Gordie also never to appear again. I vaguely remember a Twilight Zone episode similar to this. "Consider the possibilities, two numismatic bibliophiles vanish at dinner...." I then offered to go find them. I looked everywhere. I asked everyone. Except for John's Utility Vehicle in the parking lot, they had vanished. About an hour later, John and Gordie reappeared. Apparently John has infrequent bouts of an illness [creeping nussman?] that if not nipped in the bud can result in his having to go to a hospital for treatment. His last such bout was at the 1991 Chicago A.N.A. Regardless all's well that ends well.

Cutting ahead quickly. Saturday apres-diner, back to the Katens for coffee and cake. Late night goodbyes all around. Sunday morning, early. Breakfast with the Bournes at the Katens. They permitted me to take the Woodward letter home with me without having to wait for the lots to be invoiced. Bournes and Lowe to the airport. Back home late afternoon. A cat-nap ... literally. My cat and I snoozed for a couple of hours.

After dinner, Frank Van Zandt (former NBS Sec'y-Treasurer, current NBS board member, and numismatic bibliophile/numismatist par excellence) called. I couldn't wait to tell him about the Woodward letter. Quoth Frank, "I had a letter like that." Come on, Frank. Don't try to snow me. Quoth Frank, "In my complete set of Woodward's (ex-McLachlan), that I bought from a Kolbe auction, there was a letter just like that." Frank, there may have been a similar letter, but not another copy. Quoth Frank, "I owned a letter just like that." [Problem: Frank has a memory that would make an elephant insecure. But ... I had looked over every inch of the Woodward letter, so had Remy, so had Dave Hirt, so had John Huffman. How could Frank be right? Or more aptly, had I made a major faux-pax? Nope. Not me. Frank had to be wrong. Because unbeknownst to ail, I am BOOKMAN!]

Frank had sold the Woodward set [with the other putative Woodward letter] several months previously to a prominent numismatic figure. He suggested I contact the gentleman. Panic. I gently bid Frank adieu and phoned the gentleman forthwith. He kindly got his copy of the Mickley sale and took a folded letter from it. I was positive that my Woodward letter was an original as there were various words that had ink smudges: some other words that had been written over, and a few other extraneous ink marks. Individual. Unique.

Without my having told the gentleman what the specific characteristic flaws were in the inked written manuscript, he described from his letter each and every one in his letter ... which were absolutely identical to those in mine. Oops! Two possibilities. (1) William Elliot Woodward had written two identical letters, identical right down to the ink smudges or (2) I had paid nearly \$800 for something that wasn't what I had thought. Take a wild guess which was the correct alternative.

Here's what I had. The promotional insert announcing the then-upcoming Mickley sale, produced in a 19th century process that made the announcement look like an individually written letter, a procedure that was completely unknown to me (another among the infinite number of things I don't know ... all of which are increasing exponentially). This announcement is rare. I know of 3 others, and surmise that maybe a few others still exist. It certainly is worth good money, but \$800! Maybe if it was written on 2 ounces of gold.

Consider an alternative. If I had dropped out of the bidding, someone else would have the problem. So what did I get for my \$800? A neat piece of ephemera which I like a lot. Another lesson not to doubt Frank Van Zandt. A wonderful piece of information from Frank which I am sure that many of you have known for years -- that 19th century ink fades over time. (Blue or black ink will fade to a brownish color. If it is pure blue or pure black, it might as well be written in ballpoint pen.)

I also learned or relearned other valuable lessons -- lessons worth much more than \$800. (1) No matter how much you (meaning me) know, you will always make mistakes. (2) The only way never to make a mistake is never to do anything. (3) The best that you can hope for is that your successes will exceed your mistakes. (4) It could have been worse. I could have been one of the buyers of the two 1796 "no pole" half cents in the 1992 Superior sale of the Roger Cohen collection for \$17,600 and \$14,300, respectively, that have since been found out to be cast counterfeits. [See PENNY-WISE, November 15, 1997, "Discovery of Fake 1796 C-1 'No Pole' Half Cents In the Roger S. Cohen Jr. Sale" by Roger Manley, pages 272-274.]

YOU DON'T OFTEN GET TO BE
AN INSIDER TO NUMISMATIC HISTORY
or
"THE COPPER LITERATURE SALE OF THE CENTURY"

Good friend Remy Bourne became a full time dealer in numismatic literature a few years ago after he closed RAMM Communications. Remy decided to spend his time following his longtime love of numismatic literature. Remy has a distinguished numismatic library. He owns about 11,000 different U.S. numismatic auction catalogues, probably about 90% of "Gengerke". Many of you know that the Bourne children, Michael and Marlene, were numismatic literature dealers in the early 1980's, issuing 3 fixed price lists and conducting two mail bid sales.

Remy is one of the few people who has followed in the footsteps of his children. He began by issuing a series of high quality, informative Fixed Price Lists, and subsequently began conducting public auctions and mail bid sales in numismatic literature. Myron and I have had a longterm relationship with Remy both personally and professionally. We sold his collection of 19th century auction catalogues, his collection of world numismatic periodicals, his Canadian numismatic literature, and other parts of his collections. We distributed several books which he wrote including various of his books on fixed price lists, his book on American numismatic and sales literature, and his classic 2-volume work on American numismatic periodicals.

Over time, Remy & Avis (his wife) and I have become good friends, apart from numismatic literature. As Remy lives in the frozen tundra of Minneapolis, and as Continental and Southwest don't have budget flights to Minneapolis, and as until my retirement this past June, my travel was limited by my the requirements of my job, our face-to-faces were limited. In the last issue of LIMB, I wrote of my first visit to see Remy and Avis, who opened their home to me. I returned their gratitude by breaking Remy's foot. [Aha! The Money Tree's secret of success -- incapacitate your competitors.] I had sent Remy and Avis a fruit basket as a token of my gratitude. One must understand that in the Arctic north of Minneapolis (hereafter referred to as MPLS), the residents do not know of fruit. To them, the four food groups are ... ice. When Remy tried to lug the basket home from the office, he slipped on some ice; ergo broken foot.

Over the past few years Remy and I have regularly talked long distance about numismatic literature, the business, inside baseball kind of stuff. We bounce ideas off each other, brainstorm, and blither. We seek each others advice and counsel. I can also guarantee that Remy is absolutely a man of his word. Confidential things told to Remy stay confidential. An all-too-rare quality.

On my previous visit to MPLS, Remy arranged for me to see Dick Punchard's numismatic library. Dick, a large cent specialist, had a particularly comprehensive and complete large cent library. If it existed, as in Prego spaghetti sauce, it was "In there". Also, and rather extraordinarily for bibliophiles, his library was organized. You could actually find what you were looking for. [What a concept?] I spent an afternoon in rapture (and also rupture as I got up wrong) seeing things I had only heard of and things I hadn't heard of.

One night early in 1997, Remy phoned to tell me that Dick had consigned his numismatic library to Remy for auction. Mixed emotions -- (1) I was glad for Remy, (2) I was saddened that this magnificent library was going to be broken up, (3) This would give me another excuse to head to the Great White North, and (4) I envied the heck out of Remy for getting this library.

On another level a reason I was eager to see Remy is that Remy's own stock of numismatic literature is huge, veritably mind-boggling. Each of you who has even a small interest in numismatic literature owe it to yourself to make the trek to Remy's. Bring cash. Make sure you have lots of room at home. You won't go home empty handed. Take along a bib to stop you from drooling at the treasures he has in stock for sale. Don't let the legendary cold, wintry weather stop you. On the average, you can count on moderate, temperate weather in MPLS every July 15th ... for about an hour and a half.

Remy is well-aware of my passionate interest in numismatic ephemera (brochures, announcements, letters, business cards, novelties, programs ... you name it). This would give me time to get to the numerous binders of stuff that he had been putting aside. Those who have seen Remy set up at A.N.A. conventions or at F.U.N. have seen such stuff -- things no one else carries. In most cases these things are rare (occasionally unique), fascinating, previously unknown, important, cute, and vastly undervalued in the marketplace.

Here was a chance to visit with Remy and Avis again, and the crowd of MPLS numismatic bibliophiles [the number of numismatic bibliophiles in the vast metropolis of Cleveland consists of Myron, me, Terry Stahurski, and ... that's about it]: to attend the Punchard auction; and to attack Remy's stock of numismatic literature and ephemera.

There was another reason to attend. The week of Remy's auction in MPLS coincided with the Long Beach convention which featured three important auctions of large cents. So, many who would have attended Remy's Dick Punchard Library auction would be in California buying pieces of copper with peculiar die breaks. As it turned out, I would be representing about a half a dozen of those who could not be present. I must also thank the kind and generous Julian Leldman for trusting me to represent one of his clients. A small fringe benefit ... a brief airline price war dropped the cost of round trip ticket from \$864 to \$185.

I cannot overemphasize the historic importance of this sale. This would be by far the largest, most comprehensive sale of numismatic literature devoted to a single topic of which I am familiar. The November 15, 1997 issue of **PENNY-WISE** contains Pete Smith's article "The Copper Literature Sale of the Century", (pages 283-286) his authoritative account of the Punchard sale.

Further, the auction catalogue Remy produced for the Punchard sale was heroic: 1476 lots on 166 pages; with an extraordinary amount of detailed, descriptive text; Introductions by Dave Bowers and John Adams; a Punchard biography; a full-color cover illustration of Dick Punchard; detailed indexes; extensive provenancing, text illustrations, and of course the

superb offerings. I must also point out that Mark Borckardt of Bowers and Merena submitted an important three-page monograph which was laid in the catalogue, "IMPORTANT EARLY LARGE CENT SALES", a listing of all auction catalogues and FPL's which had at least 5 condition census early date large cents. Every collector of numismatic literature, every copper specialist must have this catalogue in his or her library. From my experience in cataloguing, this was clearly more than a job for Remy; this was a labor of love. Also of importance is that this would not be an estate sale. Dick would be at the auction -- hale-and-hearty. Neat!

Flight to Minneapolis on Continental's new commuter jet. Fast and efficient. Good news: the stewardess ... oops, flight attendant actually smiled. I am sure she will taken to task over that breach of corporate policy. Bad news: [this is for my partner] the seats and interior room were a bit shall-we-say comfort-challenged. In order to fit one more passenger into the allotted space in the cabin, Continental would not have had room for ... oxygen. A guy 10 rows behind me (which turned out to be about 2-feet back) had a can of open sardines and even the sardines were screaming about the lack of space in the cabin.

I stood up to let my seat-mate to his window seat, and honest to God, bashed my head on the underside of the overhead. Major bashing ... seeing stars bashing ... head bump but no blood bashing ... big noise bashing which everyone else saw, and much worse ... heard. But game trooper that I am (Were you ever in a troop game? - apologies to Steve Allen) nothing was going to keep me from Bibliomania Paradise. Fortunately I had hit myself in the head. Otherwise I might have been badly hurt.

I was picked up at the airport by the Bourne daughter, Marlene (of Michael and Marlene). Beautiful day. Marlene is truly au courant. She works as a writer for various firms on the East and West Coast, never leaving MPLS because he travels the electronic highway. Myron and I are still trying to master Pong. Marlene got us to the office quickly and skillfully. Sexist pig that I am, I told Marlene that she drove "like a man". She responded that she is an honor graduate of the Remy Bourne School of Driving, "Put the pedal to the medal, and forget the brakes."

Times a wastin'! Where's the stuff. Upstairs to Remy's office. A few gifts were exchanged. His phone was ringing off the hook; the fax machine was humming along busily, and Remy was trying to keep the bidbook up to date without getting swallowed up by the large stack of bidsheets. [I was doing quite a good job of keeping my envy under control.]

First it was time for an early lunch. Dick Punchard was able to come along. The three of us went to the Ground Round where their menu choices were prudent and healthful. I ordered the left side of the menu and several casks of iced tea. A frank admission. [Hey Frank, Confess!] Yes, I love numismatic literature; I love much of the pure hobby of numismatics. But, more than anything, I love talking about numismatic literature and numismatics with good, sympatico friends. And this was wonderful talk with wonderful friends.

Dick had to return to work. Remy had to return to work. I had to return to ... checking out auction lots for those whom I would represent and for me. Although Remy's descriptions were right on the money, sometimes the words in the catalogue don't always give the same impression as overall eye-appeal. That's one reason why attending an auction is the preferred alternative.

Phil Carrigan arrived from Chicago. Phil was also representing some additional bidders. In addition to being (I believe) President of the Barber Collectors Society, Phil is an advanced writer about and researcher of Canadian numismatic literature, among many other areas in numismatic literature. Like many in numismatic literature, Phil is a class act and a true gentleman, a kind, selfless man, and a friend to be treasured.

Then it was time for me to view Remy's stock. I bought all kinds of stuff, for my own collection: letters, a long run of early Al Overton sales, some scarce fixed price lists, and a whole bunch of stuff I had never seen before. I'm tellin' ya', you have got to get up to Remy's. A few years ago, the Bourne collection ranked with the Champa collection and the Katen Library. For periodicals, it was unmatched; for catalogues, it was unexcelled; for stuff you ain't seen before, heard of, and ain't gonna see again, it remains matchless.

Also appearing was Remy's most valuable player, Lanny Diederich. Lanny knows all, sees all, carries all, lugs all, packs all. Lanny works nights at his grown-up job. Afterward, he becomes Remy's version of Friday -- also his Saturday through Thursday. Additionally, Lanny is an awfully nice guy. I know that at times that seems like a love-in, but again part of the joy of this hobby is that there are so many wonderful people in it and around it.

[And now for a mea culpa -- a mea maxima culpa -- a mea Nissan Maxima culpa] In the last issue of OUT ON A LIMB in the diary of the early Spring A.N.A. convention in Cleveland, I wrote of the open house at The Money Tree. In it, I wrote glowingly of our "Lanny", Mike "Davis". Those of you who have read the writings of your humble author are blessedly understanding and forgiving of my ... occasional errors and mistakes ... uh, Miss Steaks ... er, mistakes. Well, I made just a slight, tiny, trivial, minor error in telling you about Mike. I got his last name wrong. You see, his name is Mike Wilson. That's MIKE WILSON. Now you our tolerant readers can understand the error of my ways as "Wilson" and "Davis" are so similar. For example, they each begin with the letter "D", except for "Wilson". They each have four letters, except for "Wilson". And finally, they both sound so similar. Now in the last issue, I only used his wrong last name ... 7 different times, and I did use his correct last name ... 0 different times. Please be understanding. Mike has only worked for us for two years! So, to our most valuable player and a valued friend, I apologize, Mike. Incidentally, even after the previous issue of LIMB came out, I still didn't notice the error of my ways. Instead I had to be chastised by everyone who knows Mike.]

Then it was time for ... food! Back to the Ground Round with Punchard, Avis & Remy, Carrigan. For me, major carbohydrate loading [and several more tanks of iced tea] for the first session of the upcoming numis-marathon which would begin at 7PM.

And now to survey the auction scenery. The sale would be conducted on the first floor of Remy's building. At the dais: Remy calling the sale; Avis and Marlene womaning the book; Michael Bourne with daughter. In the audience: Pete Smith [AMERICAN NUMISMATIC BIBLIOGRAPHIES, "Names in Numismatics" in THE NUMISMATIST; regular contributor to PENNY-WISE, et al]; William Woytasek; Harold Welch [writer/researcher par excellence of Conder Tokens, a fine generous gentleman whom I do not get to see often enough], Dean Welch (an enthusiastic young numismatist, a fine young man, and son of Harold); Phil Carrigan; Dick Punchard (front and center).

The sale brought generally brought strong prices for important material. In some cases record prices. Also some seemingly "common" material brought astonishingly high prices. This first session featured most of the classic and expensive large cent references: 1926 Chapman, 1947 Clapp-Newcomb, 1931 Clapp.

The market for quality numismatic literature is strong across the board, has been for several years, and with the influx of many new collectors with strong numismatic backgrounds appears likely to continue so for the foreseeable future. However, the market for U.S. numismatic auction catalogues has been and remains softer -- much. Qualifying statement: important, classic catalogues remain strong, as do rare, classic books. But in a long run of post-W.W.II catalogues from various companies, sometimes only one-third will receive reasonable bids. The Punchard sale also had long runs of catalogues. However, because of the importance of the Punchard catalogues -- every one that John Adams had awarded at least a "C" rating to; and of the extensive, authoritative annotations gleaned from Punchard's note cards; and from many hours of Remy's cataloguing, about

three-quarters of the catalogues sold. Testimony to Punchard, Bourne, and knowledgeable bidders.

[Side note: as the bidding got hot and heavy, the anonymous auctioneer once got a little testy with his associates on the dais -- to the consternation of all.]

The first session ended at about 9:45PM. As the cumulative adrenaline had not yet run down, it was time for another ritual -- the post-mortem. So, the assembled multitude decided to reassemble at ... The Ground Round. [Apparently, Minneapolis has only this one restaurant.] So, two tables were put together; desserts were ordered all around -- I had some killer cheesecake (the size of Mt. Everest) and ... iced tea. War stories, information, good conversation, good friends [I don't think anyone ordered Michelob]. Finally, about 11:30, with many of us about to turn into pumpkins, it was time to head to our various and sundry abodes to fall into the arms of Morpheus. [I had read sentences like this all the time in my career as a high school English teacher. I always wondered what it felt like to write one. It hurts.] Quickly to sleep, and dreams of numismatic literature danced in my head.

Saturday. Remy arises at 5:30AM. I finally figured out why. You see, Minneapolitans are like albinos. Because of millions of years of evolution in the frozen tundra, natives avoid the sun. I believe for religious reasons. So early to rise, late to bed. Incidentally, the loneliest man in Minneapolis is the guy with the franchise for Coppertone. After a healthy breakfast of juice, fruit, cereal, muffins (no iced tea - I was going through withdrawal). Onward to the office. The Saturday session would begin at 1:00PM. This would give me a lot o' time to review upcoming auction lots again, and to inspect the Bourne shelf stock. Phil Carrigan arrived early. Buoyed by the healthy breakfast, I noticed that directly across the street was Vickie Mae's Diner with a sign in the window noting, "Under New Management". I asked Remy about the place. He said to ask Avis. Avis said that she had eaten there once but didn't like it. I asked her how long ago she had eaten there. She said, "nineteen years".

So Phil and I made the trek. Vickie Mae's is an official, verily an archetype, greasy spoon -- no airs, but lots of atmosphere -- (I don't know about "hairs"), a bunch of MPLS's version of good-ole-boys (imagine with Hee-Haw with yodelling). The waitress was -- remember Flo from Mel's Diner except without any bedside manner, Mimi-like makeup [Drew Carey show], the bee-hive in gray, and an inability to do one thing at once. Vickie Mae, was owner-operator/cook/ and cleaner-upper after "Flo". That being said, I ordered my regular pre-coin show/auction meal. Ham and eggs, buttered rye toast, hashbrowns [I have a vascular deficiency ... clean arteries unblocked by cholesterol make me giddy]. The two eggs turned out to be three. The piece of ham was the whole pig except for the head. The spuds were in a heap like Richard Dreyfuss's in CLOSE ENCOUNTERS.... There was enough food to feed a small planet. The bill for this modest repast was \$2.19, no joke. To avoid having later to interrupt the elegant flow of this piece, Phil and I went back to Vickie Mae's for lunch with Bill Woytasek. I had soup, salad, a real cheeseburger like they used to make, and a couple of Pepsis. (No iced tea, no Coca Cola in the place.) This time the tariff came to \$2.39. I was properly stoked until dinner.

Back to Remy's I added a stack of his stock to my previous pile from yesterday's accumulation. Then on to the afternoon session. The session began with a properly chastised auctioneer humbly apologizing for the incident of his shortness the previous evening with his lovely dais-mates. This pleased the audience, and the dais. At the auction I was largely successful including getting a lovely copy of the 1925 Newcomb for a client.

Dinner that night was an unprecedented experience for this diarist. We did not eat at a restaurant. The post-mortem was held at Chez Bourne. Avis had made a wondrous meal for we undeserving peasants: Carrigan, Punchard, Remy, and me. Past readers may remember (but for the life of me I cannot understand why) my bout of chronic digestive distress from 1988 to about-1992 which was caused by my delicate system's inability to tolerate Nutrasweet, also called Equal, or in my case Liquid-Plumber. Anyway, during that period my sensitive

system (sensitivity is one of my strongest traits) could only tolerate chicken and turkey, truly a foul diet. So needless to say, since then I have only had chicken ... come to think of it, I haven't had chicken since. So to my consternation, Avis had prepared ... chicken. But gracious guest that I am, I would cover up my trepidation. [Have you ever seen a naked trepidation?] However, Avis' creation was a boneless breast of chicken in a pepper/onion sauce that ranked with the best tasting anything I have ever eaten. So now my four food groups include iced tea, chocolate, cheesecake, and Avis' chicken. She even gave your unworthy scribe the simple recipe. Surprise, even I was able to reproduce this gustatorial delight.

The others departed. Avis, Remy, and I spent the rest of the evening talking about ... stuff. We were all bushed as the adrenaline had run out several hours earlier. Plus, I had a Sunday 11:30AM flight back home -- on Continental [Get ready, Myron]. Remy drove me to the airport, and offered to wait with me until my flight left. Quite generous I thought. I didn't realize how generous until ... Oh, did I tell you that we drove to the airport in heavy fog? As I got to the Continental check-in, I saw from a distance the wall-chart indicating the status of the various outgoing flights. I noticed that all of the flights in the "Departing" category were "On-Time", except for the one flight to Cleveland which said "Delayed". The check-in person told me that the fog was lifting and that there would only be about a half-hour delay. Warning bell! Warning bell! I had the same experience several years ago with Continental with an outgoing flight from visiting Armand Champa. Then the "half-hour delay" extended into four hours. Finally, then about 9:00PM the Continental folks actually packed up and went home without even a goodbye (kind of like the Baltimore Colts slinking out of Baltimore to go to Indianapolis a few years ago). Then, I was only able to get an outgoing flight to Cleveland through the kindness of the Southwest Airlines folk.

Not to be fooled twice by the same Continental ploy, I immediately went to Northwest and booked their next flight to Cleveland. They told me that everyone in the known universe knew that the airport was going to be fogged in until 2:30 that afternoon, and that they could get me a seat on a 2:30 flight. They even exchanged my Continental ticket with a smile. As Remy and I walked by Continental we could still hear them giving that same cockamamle story about "only about a half hour delay".

So what to do for a couple of hours. Thanks to Remy, we went back to the office. I found another stack of stuff to buy.

Dick Punchard had come to the office to keep us company. And then the skies symbolically brightened. Serendipity! Dick offered to take me back to his shop to see the virtually pristine 1932 "Little Deuce Coupe" that he had recently bought. In the account of my first visit to MPLS in a previous issue of LIMB, I learned of Dick's "hobby" of restoring old vehicles. I saw two 1931 Fords that he had restored, a coupe and a roadster. That was a truly memorable experience. The 1932 Ford 3-window V-8 that Dick had bought in PA from a 79 year old guy who lived with his 99 year old father -- really! Using a numismatic analogy, the car is a one-year type, and the first year of the Ford V-8. Probably less than 100 of these classic cars, in original condition, are known. Dick's is probably in the condition census. A great story from a great guy about a great car. What a wonderful couple of hours that I would have missed if my flight has not been delayed by fog.

Quick close. The Northwest flight was quick and enjoyable, I got out of the Cleveland airport in a trice, I got back home in less than a trice. One doesn't often get the opportunity to experience great moments of history, numismatic or otherwise. As time affords the luxury of adding perspective to the past, all of my memories of the Punchard sale reinforce its historical numismatic importance. I am grateful for being able to attend and to participate in the sale; I am extremely grateful to Avis and Remy for their hospitality and generosity; I am grateful for the friendliness and friendship of the Minneapolitans; I am grateful for your giving me an outlet to share my experiences; and I am extremely grateful that Continental is not the only airline serving the friendly skies of America.

THE RARE STACK'S SALE OF DECEMBER 20-21, 1947 THE KEY TO THE SERIES

For those who try to complete a collection of Stack's sales, it is generally agreed that their 87th sale, December 20-21, 1947, is the key to the series. On the few occasions when a copy has appeared at auction, it has brought up to \$400. On occasion, one may see a copy sell cheaply when the cataloguers and/or bidders are unaware of its rarity. I also know of three copies that have been sold by private treaty to collectors needing it to complete their Stack's sets.

The apparently unremarkable small format sale catalogue has light blue card covers. Printed in black, the cover lettering reads: "Auction Sale [in script] / SUPERB COLLECTION / OF UNITED STATES / COINS / and FOREIGN GOLD COINS / Saturday and Sunday / December 20th and 21st, 1947 / Auction Sale & Catalogue / by / Stack's [in their familiar script] / To be Sold at S.J. KABEALO'S / 15 No. Euclid Avenue, Pasadena 1, California", specifically at the Palm Room of the Hotel Green. The sale consisted of 41 pages and had 1430 lots. A fine copy of this sale in Mr. Kolbe's May 1988 sale, lot 1179, brought \$290 (!) on an estimate of \$50.00. We offered a fine copy in our fourth sale October 31, 1988, lot 512, which sold for \$55.00 on a bid rolled which was rolled back from \$275. The contents included 41 half cents with 1796 with pole, 1831 LB, 1840 LB, 1841 LB, and 8 other proofs. Also offered were 33 pattern 5 cents; 201 proof singles from 1858-1915; extensive 19th century U.S. gold in all series with many rarities and mintmarked issues.

John Adams rated the sale "B-" overall, awarding a "B" rating for U.S. gold, and ratings of "C" or "C+" in 7 other categories -- large cents, half cents, colonials, patterns, proofs, early silver, and late silver.

Until Martin Gengerke began issuing his indispensable reference, AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AUCTIONS, the sale's very existence was generally unknown. Those who own or who have seen the catalogue could generally only surmise about the "raison-d'etre" for the sale. I recently obtained from Remy Bourne an enclosure which Stack's apparently laid in the catalogue. We have handled three copies of this catalogue, and have seen several others. None of them had this enclosure. If the catalogue itself is considered extremely scarce or rare, this enclosure must be considered very rare. This is the first example we have seen or heard of. The text of the enclosure will clear up much of the speculation:

STACK'S

CALIFORNIA HERE WE COME!

To our many friends:

For a number of years the Senior Members at STACK'S have visited the West Coast periodically. And the collectors kept asking, "Why don't we have a STACK'S Auction in California?" Well, here it is.

On our last trip we looked about and felt that an ideal location would be the Crown City of Greater Los Angeles -- Pasadena. We have obtained the consignors' whole-hearted approval to put these coins up at public auction in California. Although this is a National Sale, Western collectors are going to have the opportunity to attend and bid in person. For any additional information before the sale you may write directly to STACK'S, 12 West 46th Street, New York 19, N.Y. A member of our firm will attend the sale personally to see that the famous STACK'S standards are maintained.

Just glance through the Catalogue. You will see that this sale contains several interesting and important consignments. Incidentally, the estimated prices for each lot, placed on the right side of the page, are merely suggestions for your guidance, and not reserve prices. You may bid higher or lower, as you please.

Mr. S.J. Kabealo was our first choice for auctioneer. Fortunately for us, and for the West Coast collectors, he was able to fit our sale into his schedule, on December 20th and 21st, 1947. We have known Mr. Kabealo during the many years he spent on the East Coast as a numismatist and auctioneer. He was our auctioneer when we conducted the A.N.A. Auction Sale at the 1940 National Convention.

STACK'S hopes the West Coast collectors are going to equal our anticipation and enthusiasm for this sale. We are certain that this sale will be a success and if it is, California can be assured of several STACK'S Auctions each year.

Numismatically
yours,
STACK'S

Gengerke lists 147 auction for Sam J. Kabealo between 1930 and 1973. Kabealo began in Youngstown, Ohio. He moved to Pasadena in 1947 where he conducted his first auction there (sale number 60), a modest 2-page sale of 747 lots in June 1947.

We have never seen nor heard of a separately issued Prices Realized List for this Stack's sale. Of course, this does not preclude the possibility of its existence. However, we are aware of a very few handpriced copies of this auction catalogue in the hands of collectors, and of course in the holdings of Stack's.

The last sentence of the enclosure indicated that if the California sale were successful, Stack's would then conduct several auctions per year in California. As this was the only Stack's California sale, one may assume that the sale was not the success that the Stack's organization had hoped for.

NOTE: the rare SOBERNHEIM catalogue and sale conducted by Stack's Galleries in 1952 will be discussed in the next issue.

LET'S TALK LITERATURE by KARL MOULTON

[KARL AND JENNY MOULTON are the proprietors of GREAT AMERICAN SALES, a numismatic literature firm specializing in U.S. numismatic auction catalogues. They have a huge stock of catalogues from nineteenth century to date. Karl and Jenny are good people; we recommend them highly. The firm regularly issues fixed price lists. A new list has just been released. Their winter address is PO Box 3015, Wickenburg AZ 85358. Their phone number is (520)-684-2702. Karl has given us permission to reprint the two articles which are in their current list.]

For many of us the mention of the word literature brings back shades of sitting in a high school or college classroom trying to understand the meanings of the works of Shakespeare, Dickens and Milton. For many this was not an enjoyable experience.

It is a continuing source of bewilderment why more of today's dealers and investors do not actively engage themselves in acquiring numismatic literature. Perhaps it is due to the

above scenario. Whatever the reason, the percentage [of acquirers] is a tiny one. Those who do acquire are the smart ones.

Let's look at the role literature plays in numismatics. In the beginning most people want to know about prices and/or market values. They visit a coin show or a coin show and end up purchasing a "Redbook" or one of the weekly newspapers pertaining to coins -- which also list retail prices. This is the cornerstone of numismatic knowledge. Since all knowledge is acquired, it helps everyone involved when the customer knows enough to understand values and pricing on certain items of interest.

Later, as more information is assimilated, the person usually expands into selected areas of interest, searching for varieties and/or perhaps becoming a dealer. More literature is needed each step of the way. Go to any coin show and just try to find a dealer that doesn't need to have the latest weekly price guide when you want to sell a few coins. They are few and far between -- if you can find even one.

Perhaps the best way to understand the coin hobby of today is to learn about the past. Not just 10 years ago, but 100 years ago and beyond that, back to the very beginnings of pre-federation coinage. Old auction catalogues are one of the best, and least expensive, ways you can accomplish this. You can use catalogues to research pedigrees, number of appearances of specific dates, chart prices throughout the years, compare plates, check for scarce varieties, track the first appearances, learn about counterfeits, and so forth.

We at Great American Sales offer one of the finest selections of old auction catalogues to be found anywhere. Most are priced lower than going out for dinner! The catalogues are definitely collectible, and have a lasting value. They will add greatly to your numismatic knowledge and we know you will have fun going through these fascinating sales over and over again.

NINETEENTH CENTURY AUCTION CATALOGUES by KARL MOULTON

These sales represent the core of American numismatics. The first coin auction of note of the Lewis Roper sale in 1851. By the end of the 1850's many collectors were active from Philadelphia to Boston. The big market was Proof sets, thanks to a friendly mint director who was happy to oblige any and all orders -- including himself. These early collectors sold their duplicates, and acquired missing pieces to help fill in their collections by bidding in auction sales, just like now.

Names like McCoy, Mickley, Cohen, Jenks, Stickney, Garrett, etc. are remembered today; and any coins accurately pedigreed are highly prized items indeed. Interestingly the collector of this time did not focus on top quality type coins. His main interest was apt to be U.S. & world medals, George Washington items, early copper tokens, ancients, and colonials.

Dealers like Ed Cogan, W.E. Woodward, William Strobridge, A.B. Sage, Ebenezer Mason, John Haseltine, Ed Frossard, Sigismund Harzfeld, the Chapman brothers, H.P. Smith, H.G. Sampson, David Proskey, George Massamore, and Charles Stelgerwalt all presented many fine auction sales. At times there were more than 60 combined sales by the dealers listed above in a single year. That's more than one sale per week! Public disputes such as Cogan vs Mason, Frossard vs Woodward, Harzfeld vs the U.S. Mint., and virtually everybody vs the Chapmans' cataloguing the Bushnell sale, all added spicy ingredients to the marketplace. It was truly an interesting time in American numismatics.

It's due in part to several hoards of catalogues that we have any selection available today. The opportunity to acquire these catalogues at today's prices is reminiscent of when I was a young coin dealer in the late 1960's. Uncirculated silver dollars were going begging at \$60.00 per roll. There were thousands available from the treasury hoard and silver was still \$1.29 and ounce. No one wanted the things due to their weight. I still remember seeing Record Coin Shop ads (John Love) listing everything at less than \$20 each.

Here's the good news: these Nineteenth Century sales are in the same situation price-wise as those Morgan and Peace dollars were 30 years ago -- and they weigh a whole lot less. When the rarity factor is figured with less than 200 extant of any given sale, and in some cases much less, their desirability becomes self-evident.

Collecting these early sales is challenging but not really expensive. It takes a certain amount of background research to learn the differences between good ones and the not-so-good ones. Fortunately there is excellent literature available should you have an interest. It's an exciting adventure trying to complete a set from any one of these pioneer dealers. This writer has been enjoying this form of bibliomania for years now. Today there are approximately a dozen dealers that conduct numismatic literature mail bid sales. Only a very few numismatic literature dealers issue fixed price lists.

The following selection [the recently released Great American Sales fixed price list] provides you with an opportunity to choose a 100+ year old coin sale at a price that will seem reasonable, if not downright cheap when we reach the 21st century. You, too, can join in the fun. We will be happy to offer opinions, insights, and answers to any questions.

A LETTER TO THE MONEY TREE

[We recently received a very nice letter from Richard Mantia about a lot upon which he was the successful bidder in our 29th mail bid sale which closed November 10. With his permission we would like to share parts of it with you.]

Thank you for taking the time to tell me [whether or not I was the successful bidder on a particular lot]. I was definitely unhappy to learn that I was buying a book from [the estate of] Mr. Champa. When Mr. Champa sold his library through Bowers & Merena, I tried to buy as much as I could, but I was forced to pass on this book at that time. Unfortunately, I was a winner this time. The reason that I'm disappointed is that Armand had to pass away for me to acquire this book.

I never had the opportunity to meet him or to talk to him and I really wanted to, and I would gladly trade the book to have been able to call him one of my friends. This is the same feeling that Yakov Reichel had when he heard of the death of Matthew Young in 1838. Now it is my turn to take care of Armand's book and I wanted to thank Mr. Champa's family for giving me the opportunity to do so. Here I sit 160 years later with the same mixed feelings as Mr. Reichel, and I wanted to tell you all. Thanks for bringing me good news and bad news. The interleaved Red Book is in a good home.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS BACK-ISSUE HOARD DISCOVERED

[NOTE: On Monday December 8, 1997, this news release was sent to the numismatic media and also was sent out over the INTERNET] The Money Tree, numismatic booksellers of Rocky River, OH have announced an extraordinary discovery of an old publisher's backstock of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS (AJN). Published initially by the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society in 1866, the journal continued under various editorships until 1924. Many important articles on U.S. and worldwide numismatic subjects were initially published within its covers. Complete sets are rare and highly sought, commanding up to \$10,000 in auctions.

The present hoard was apparently stored in a warehouse for half a century. It was recently purchased Wayne K. Homren of Pittsburgh, PA. Mr. Homren is currently serving as Vice-President of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society (NBS). "I've been hoping to build a set of AJN's for years, but it's been hard to locate many of the issues. They just weren't out there. I was astounded to learn of the existence of the publisher's backstock 'hoard' in October, and moved immediately to purchase it. My wife and I travelled on Thanksgiving weekend to pick it up."

The hoard consisted entirely of original, unbound issues. There are many complete volumes although only about half of the journal's 53 volumes are represented. In addition, there are a number of individual issues for assorted years spanning the entire 1866-1924 period.

"I love numismatic literature, but I only need one copy of each," Mr. Homren said. The remainder of the hoard has been consigned to The Money Tree for sale. "This is truly a remarkable find - I'm still a bit overwhelmed by its size and scope," said Ken Lowe, a partner in The Money Tree. "It is like finding an original mint roll of bust half dollars - it's unheard of these days."

For more information, contact The Money Tree, 1260 Smith Court, Rocky River, OH 44116, or by phone at (440) 333-3444.

And now for the inside story

"YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHAT I HAVE"

Thanksgiving weekend, Sunday night, November 30, 1997. My phone rang. The Caller ID indicated a call from Wayne Homren. Neat. For the uninitiated, Wayne is the Vice-President of the Numismatic Bibliomania Society, the longtime owner of Rebellon Numismatics, and perhaps more than anyone is responsible for the renaissance in numismatic organizations in Western Pennsylvania, although he is far too modest ever to acknowledge this. He was a tireless worker at the 1989 A.N.A. convention in Pittsburgh, has held numerous offices in the Western Pennsylvania Numismatic Society, PAN, and is a major reason why the PAN show has grown large so over the last several years. Additionally, Wayne, or Mr. Pennsylvania Numismatics, as I have tagged him, has an absolutely wonderful numismatic library.

Also, in our last issue, we noted that Wayne was engaged. We are pleased to note that Myron, Darvl, and I attended Wayne and Dee's wedding in Pittsburgh July 5, 1997. A sunny day. A magnificent celebration. The wedding was held at an historic and majestic church. Dee was as lovely a bride as has ever been. And as for Wayne ... In the words of John Burns, "The boy cleans up real good." The reception was limited to the population of the known world. Good food, a wonderful hall, and great company. At the reception, we were seated at a

table with Pat McBride and his friend Dawn, and Glenn and Jean Mooney. I have long been familiar with Mr. Mooney and his important numismatic writings and research, but had never gotten to meet him. Mr. Mooney was among the prominent group of post-war Pittsburgh numismatists including Howard Gibbs, Ray Byrne, and Sidney Eastwood. Suffice it to say, I spent virtually the entire reception in splendid conversation with Mr. and Mrs. Mooney. What a thrill! Such warm, engaging, wonderful, and generous people. I can clearly see his legacy and his influence in the large number of the active, excellent younger numismatists in western Pennsylvania.

Wayne's regular calls usually consist of his having some important news, his giving me some information about numismatic literature, his requesting for information about numismatic literature, his sharing with me various treasures he has discovered and obtained [Wayne's numismatic sources are so deep and extensive, I secretly refer to him as "Deep Book"], and some good old rambling conversation that enriches both of us and the phone company.

Anyway, as Wayne began his side of the conversation he stammered slightly, seeming a little distracted. He began, "You'll never guess what I have." This is the exact phrase I used several years ago when I called Armand Champa to tell him that I had the longtime missing 5th copy of Thian's REGISTER... in my hands. It was then that Wayne told me of his having bought this hoard of AJN's. He also mentioned that he was in physical possession of the issues and that they were spread out in piles in his dining room. [At the October PAN show, Wayne and Dee invited Myron & Daryl, David & Sherry Sklow, and me to their lovely and large new home.] As wonderful as Dee is, I cannot imagine that she was particularly thrilled at having all of these AJN's on the large dining room table and all over the new carpet.

Over the course of a few discussions held in the next few days, we negotiated a mutually satisfactory "deal". Wayne offered to draft a news release. He said it take him a day or two to get it to us. With virtually no tweaking, Wayne's draft turned out to be the actual news release. However in the interim, I made some phone calls to our friends around the country to share news of the find. A news release is really only an announcement. One call tell if the news touches anyone by the actual response it generates. Before Wayne's release had been faxed to us two days later, I had already gotten a slew of phone calls at the office and at home. What was extraordinary about this was that many of the calls came from people whom I had not phoned, from people the people I had phoned had not even phoned. Apparently the news spread kind of like a phone-tree or a chain letter. We got calls from friends, "I'll take one of everything you have." [This is not joke, we already have 2 firm orders for one-of-everything, and that's without their even knowing the pricing.] We got calls from strangers: from Texas, from Chicago, from Ireland, New Zealand, California (northern and southern), Boston, and from 2 libraries -- one public, one university. Small problem, not only had we not decided what to price them at, we hadn't even seen them yet.

Wayne had assured us that these issues had not been touched since 1947. But one of the basic laws of numismatic literature is that numismatic literature attracts water: the rarer the book -- the more water it attracts. So Myron & I arranged a quick one-day trip (Sunday, December 8, 1997) to drive to Pittsburgh, close the deal, pack the AJN's in the car, and drive back to Cleveland.

A brief but necessary digression. For our new readers: [Our regular readers already are all-too-aware of this.] Myron and I could get lost in a closet. When we travel we don't miss cities, we miss states. If we had been Christopher Columbus, we would not have advised him to sail west, we would told him to sail ... straight up, or in circles. Amazingly, we arrived in Pittsburgh early as we did not get lost. As for the ride home [Russell Logan, you may want to sit down at this point] we got back on the PA turnpike and were making great time ... going east. Except Cleveland is west, unless we had planned to circumnavigate the PA Turnpike. Simple solution, we got off at the next exit [Myron, was it the Rhode Island exit?] to turn around. Simple. Myron asked me which was the entrance ramp back on, I pointed left. We drove left. Myron hit the brakes. In a moment of clear inspiration, Myron decided to drive

back up the entrance ramp in reverse to get a view of the overhead sign. Amazing, or in retrospect maybe not, had Myron not done this, we would have again continued on our merry way east. A small matter of driving over a median got us to the correct entrance ramp. And we were on our way homeward.

Back to the story, we got to Wayne's house and took a gander at the hundreds upon hundreds upon hundreds ad infinitum of issues. Virtually all of these issues were original and unopened. That is, its component sections had never been trimmed at the edges or slit open with a paper knife. Thus the untrimmed edges slightly overlapped the covers. Also one could not open the pages all the way because the pages (folded in the printing process) had not been sliced open at the top. Yes, these were as advertised, absolutely untouched.

Some of the covers had some minor chipping at the periphery. Remember, in earlier days, printers bound their books or periodicals with flimsy paper covers recognizing that most collectors would send their books to their respective bookbinders who would remove any original covers before rebinding them. Subsequently, these books would be finely bound, generally in leather. For years, periodicals continued to be issued with flimsy covers. However, many of today's collectors want their older periodicals with the original covers. Further, in many cases much valuable information was printed on the covers. Thus, that these covers were only trivially chipped and slightly soiled, if at all, is of special note.

The contents were generally untouched, never opened. I want to use the word "Pristine" but Myron won't let me because a page here or there may have some dustiness, or a corner fold. BUT! I can say that I have seen no copies superior to those here. I spent some hours over a period of several years with the famous, original, unbound set which Armand Champa bought from Dave Bowers and which Armand subsequently had bound (Bowers & Merena, CHAMPA II, lot 1012, illustrated on color plate 2) by Alan Grace. This set was described, and accurately so, as "virtually unimprovable". The "Homren Hoard" does not contain a complete set of AJN's. However, the Homren volumes and individual issues are in fact at least the equal of those in the Champa set.

I spent the better part of 10 years assembling the best set of the first 4 volumes of the AJN, largely because these volumes each consisted of 12 issues, and of volumes 3 & 4 containing the 3 photographic plates that are both historic and valuable: the U.S. Mint Building, the famous "Levick" plate of large cents, and the "Hall" plate of type coins. The "Homren Hoard" had many copies of these important, rare (or at least decidedly-elusive) plates. Let's just say that the best of my issues and or plates is inferior to the worst or more accurately, "least best" of the "Homren Hoard".

We cannot overemphasize how special these issues are. We have handled and seen many AJN's during our time in business and before. We have never seen anything to match these. The copies which usually appear in the marketplace generally have had at least several owners, have been moved, opened, dropped, bent, folded, underlined, damaged, poorly trimmed, and been subject to a variety of biblio-crimes and misdemeanors. The "Homren" issues were not only untouched for 50 years, prior to that they had also been in storage at the ANS. Each of the photographic plates is virtually perfect [I'm sorry, Myron, the plates are pristine.] The surface emulsion is perfect; no folds, no bends, no stains, no chips, no breaks in the "luster".

I am aware that, sadly, that many collectors do not collect 19th century numismatic auction catalogues. Thus, many collectors did not actively seek catalogues from the spectacular Wylie Hoard nearly 2 decades ago.

However, I cannot put this any more straightforward. Each and every collector of numismatic literature should have copies of the AJN from the "Homren Hoard" in his or her library. Many are rare in any condition. All are rare in such high condition. They are invaluable sources of

numismatic information -- first-hand accounts by the legendary figures from the earliest days of American numismatics. This is truly a special, and probably unique opportunity.

For those who lamented that they either did not buy important and high quality numismatic literature years ago, or that they weren't alive 50 years ago to buy these things -- this is your opportunity to go back in time and obtain fine, important, rare, and untouched examples of Numismatica Americana.

TRUTH IN ADVERTISING. We have not picked over the hoard. With the exception of Wayne's putting aside one of everything (and only one) for himself [He's probably entitled, don't you think?], and one other set as described in the next paragraph, nothing else has been bought or taken out or "cherried". Myron and I have not bought, been given, or taken anything. A Money Tree precept, "You're either a dealer or a collector." We have contracted with Wayne that we will only buy if anything is left at the end. It is entirely possible that Myron and I may not be able to buy anything from the Homren Hoard; we would not at all be surprised to see this Hoard sell out. Again, as noted, **NOTHING HAS BEEN PRESOLD OR SORTED OUT.** The hoard has not been picked. We did contact George Kolbe about his buying volume 53 part 2 (a scarce volume devoted entirely to ancient coinage), but he passed on the opportunity.

THE ONE EXCEPTION: we have taken one of everything including some items of which only one copy existed [and are not offered in this fixed price list.]. That one-of-everything will be offered in our 30th mail bid sale in late winter 1998.

The prices we are charging for the AJN reflect what individual volumes and issues bring in the marketplace when offered and their excellent condition.

Listed below are the various complete volumes which were present in the "Homren Hoard" [not to be confused with the Leroy Hoard who is back-up running back to Robert Smith - a former student of mine, an extraordinarily and non-stereotypically intelligent and well-spoken young man - for the Minnesota Vikings].

Remy Bourne and I had lamented this past summer that with the Katens' apparent retirement [You can't count them out. Frank had announced his retirement for the first time in 1989], and with the "Wylie Hoard" long having been disseminated that we had probably seen the last of the hoards of 19th century literature. In the words of that great American, Gomer Pyle, "Surprise, surprise, surprise!"

No matter how you cut it, Wayne uncovered a gem, and bought it.

A NOTE ON PURCHASING MULTIPLE COPIES: So that as many different collectors as people as possible can get their orders filled, we will only fill orders for multiple copies, volumes, or sets after all individual orders are filled. We suggest very strongly that you place your orders ASAP. We fully expect a strong, quick response to this offering. Orders received with payment will be processed in the order in which they are received. Phone orders will be accepted, but will not be processed until payment is received.

A NOTE ON PRICING AND DISCOUNTS: There will be no discounts whatsoever on Volumes I, III, and/or IV. Pricing for them is net. For all other issues and volumes, if your purchases totaling at least \$400, you may take a 15% discount. If your purchases totaling at least \$800, you may take a 25% discount. Shipping and handling are extra. \$3.00 for the first item, and \$1.00 each for each subsequent item with a maximum of \$20.00 for shipping and handling.

THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS

Listed below are the contents of the volumes of AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS present in the "Homren Hoards". The following information about the AJN is taken from this cataloguer's introduction to Remy Bourne's THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC PERIODICAL FROM 1860 TO 1960, AN ILLUSTRATED CHECKLIST.

On March 8, 1866 at the meeting of the American Numismatic & Archaeological Society (ANAS) Joseph Levick proposed the creation of an American numismatic periodical equal to the quality of the European journals. The ANAS [Note: the ANS was renamed the ANAS after the Civil War keeping the name until 1908 when it resumed being called the ANS] appointed a publication committee of Joseph Levick, Isaac Wood, George H. Perine, Frank H. Norton and Reverend William W. Seymour. Because there was doubt about the prospects for the financial success of a journal, the ANAS adopted measures to subsidize the first year of the project. Finally, near the end of May 1866 the first issue of the first major American numismatic periodical appeared - Volume I, Number 1 of the AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS AND BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. (Howard L. Adelson, The American Numismatic Society, 1958, p. 56). At the very beginning of the first issue which consisted of 8 pages a statement appeared summarizing the state of numismatic communication in America as the time:

It is certainly a matter of some surprise, taking into consideration the extent of the interests involved, that the subjects of Numismatics and Archaeology have, until the present time, existed in this country without an organ or means of introduction to the public, or to those persons who make their study a specialty.

... the only means for instruction, for the spread of information, or for the advancement of these sciences, in a literary point of view, has been an occasional paragraph in a weekly paper, or an account of some coins sale, or the discovery of an ancient relic, transiently made public in the newspapers and perhaps cut out and preserved by interested collectors.

... and all this time there has been no publication attempted which, besides being of historical value, should act as a check upon all nefarious and improper acts, either in the manufacture, collection, or sale of coins and medals.

... with the hope that ... It [The AJN] may in time become a useful and valuable adjunct to historical and scientific literature. (p. 1)

Unfortunately the AJN was not an immediate financial success. In fact from 1870 to 1908, the publication of the AJN was taken over by the Boston Numismatic Society. However, the importance of this estimable journal which ran in 53 volumes through 1924 was quite accurately stated in a history of the Journal written in Volume XLI, "The history of the Journal, if it could be given in detail, would be a history of American numismatics."

Not only does the AJN contain significant articles, but it also contains letters, brief notes on significant occurrences in American numismatics, reviews of books, and reviews of recently concluded numismatic auctions of the period. The issues also contained proceedings of the Boston Numismatic Society, the ANS, Philadelphia Numismatic Society, Numismatic and Antiquarian Society of Montreal, and as time passed other numismatic organizations.

A NOTE ON THE CONDITION OF THE ISSUES. These issues were stored untouched for over 50 years in a warehouse. As original issues, they are generally unopened. This means that at the very top, the untrimmed pages have not been opened with a book knife. Also, the contents slightly overlap the paper or card covers. Thus, these are ready to be trimmed by the eventual purchaser. The card or paper covers may, but not necessarily, show some slight dustiness or peripheral chipping. The only problem with the volumes consisting of quarterly issues is that as many of the issues were originally glued at the backstrip, over time the glue may have dried out. Thus, the covers may pull away from the contents. Regardless, the contents are generally excellent -- virtually pristine.

Most issues of the **AJN** that have appeared in the marketplace show evidence of handling and use. Except for the few sets which generally have been superbly bound, we have seen no copies that are in finer condition than these hoard issues. This clearly is an unprecedented opportunity. We fully expect many collectors to order multiple copies of these issues.

THE LISTING OF THE COMPLETE VOLUMES OFFERED FOR SALE AND A LISTING OF THEIR RESPECTIVE CONTENTS

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS and **Bulletin of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Society**. Volume I, complete in 12 issues. May 1866 to April 1867. 96 pp. 175.00

As noted above, Volume I is historically and numismatically significant. The complete first volume is quite scarce, especially with all the covers present. It has been estimated that between 150 and 200 copies of the first issue were produced with Adelson noting that in 1867 circulation of the **AJN** had been less than 100. (p. 61) Soon after, the issues began to include accounts of auction sales, accounts of the legislation authorizing new coinage, correspondence, and lists of coin catalogues [the source of much of Attinelli's data] and coins and tokens. By the eighth issue, December 1866, the expanding horizons of the American numismatic world appeared with 2 articles "Numismatics in Indiana" and "Numismatics in California".

It is interesting to note that Volume I of the **NUMISMATIST** (which was introduced 22 years later), was printed in similar quantities to those of the **AJN**. Yet Volume I of the **NUMISMATIST** in similar condition to this lot would sell for about \$2500 or about 10 times more than these issues. This truly is an underpriced volume.

The early issues are most exciting including specifically discussions of the earliest American numismatic societies; early observations by American numismatists; Daniel Parish, Jr.'s series, "List of Catalogues of Coin Sales" from 1828 (Attinelli got much of his information here); a serial cataloguing of "Copperheads" (Civil War tokens), Augustus Sage's serial article, "Recollections of a Coin Collector"; numismatically significant letters from Woodward and Cogan; Stickney on the 1804 dollar. This historically important volume is scarce especially so choice, undervalued, numismatically important, and absolutely fascinating reading.

VOLUME III WITH BOTH PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES THE U.S. MINT AND THE "LEVICK" PLATE OF LARGE CENTS

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume III. Complete in 12 issues. May 1868 to April 1869. 100 pp. 2 PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATES. The photographs are 13.3 by 21.3 centimeters. 300.00

The highlight of this volume is the offering of fine copies of both photographic plates. The November 1868 issue contains a photograph plate of the first U.S. Mint building. The plate is from the negative of a photograph originally taken in 1854. According to the accompanying article written by B. (C. Wyllys Betts), the original photograph was taken by the author, "[the photograph] is sufficient however to give a tolerably accurate idea of the condition and appearance of the unpretending birth-place of our homely but indispensable coinage". Betts was too modest. The photographic plate is excellent.

The April 1869 issue featured the famous "Levick" plate, considered to be the first general photographic record of large cents in American numismatics. [The 1868 Dudley Child photographs of large cents are considered private records.] The photographic plate of the cents of 1793 illustrates 11 obverse and 11 reverse varieties. The plate accompanied Sylvester Crosby's article "The United States Cents of 1793". The owners of the various cents were listed following Crosby's article.

While the importance of the 2 plates cannot be denied, the other contents of these issues is also of great importance. Regular features include transactions of other numismatic societies (Boston, Rhode Island, New England, etc.), auction summaries, book reviews, and correspondence from numismatically important people. Series include Levick's "Reminiscences of Coin-Collecting"; the folding table of by Levick of "the prices paid for the five types of the 1793 cent selected from 20 of the principal coin sales ... from 1855 to 1868". Longacre obituary. Levick on the cents of 1793. The rare folding table of "Prices of the Lord Baltimore Coinage at Recent Public Sales"; letters from Crosby and Maris on New Jersey Cents; The upcoming Mackenzie sale..

VOLUME IV WITH THE HALL PHOTOGRAPHIC PLATE

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS and Bulletin of the American Numismatic and Archaeological Societies. [Note the change in the last word of the title.] Volume IV, complete in 12 issues. May 1869 to April 1870. 100 pp. 1 photographic plate. 175.00

The August 1869 issue contains the rare "Hall" photographic plate accompanying the article "Devices on United States Coins and Pattern Pieces". The plate is titled "Devices on United States Coins and Pattern Pieces", accompanied by an article describing the 24 coins pictured, all obverses. Included are 1792 Birch cent, the obverse of a 1793 chain (ex-Mackenzie) and a 1793 wreath cent, an 1804 eagle, and a Libertas American medal.

This plate is only the fourth photographic plate to show United States coinage, preceded only by Dudley Child's 1868 photographs of his 12 of his large cents (apparently unique, generally unknown - see Kolbe XXVI, lot 288, and not prepared for the public), the April 1869 AJN of the Levick plate of large cents, and Edward Cogan's Mackenzie sale of June 1869. It is generally considered that only 100 of these plates were produced.

The April 1870 issue contains a 4 page index to the first four volumes of the AJN. The April 1870 issue was the last to be published by the ANS until 1908 because of the financial losses the society incurred from the AJN. The Boston Numismatic Society took over the AJN until 1908 publishing it as a quarterly.

Other highlights include a review of Cogan's 1869 Mackenzie sale; A letter from Maris detailing a new New Jersey cent. Crosby on a New Jersey cent. The *Gloriam Regni*. a *Nova Constellatio* cent. "Medals and Jetons of Numismatists"; a detailed review of Maris' 1869 *Varieties of the Copper Issue of the United States Mint in the Year 1794*, and later a review of the 1870 2nd edition; Sylvester Crosby about early American coinage and 1793 cents; a letter from John Swan Randall explaining the origins of the "Randall" hoard of large cents; a descriptive listing by Levick of 56 of his *Hard Times* tokens. List of members. A letter from McLachlan discussing items from his collection which were not listed by Sandham.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XIX, complete in 4 issues. July 1884 through April 1885 (Whole numbers 105 through 108). 96 pp. 125.00

Halftone frontis plate of "Early French and English Pieces Relating to America" showing the obverses and reverses of 3 medals, 5 jetons, and the 1670 *Gloriam Regni*. Parsons' serial article "The Colonial Jetons of Louis XV"; Grueber's serial article, "The Coinage of Rome"; continuation of serial article, "Coinage of Canada"; detailed announcement of Woodward's sale of the Levick collection of storecards and tokens; Cogan's obituary; Keary's serial article "The Coinage of Christian Europe"; detailed announcement of the Chapmans' Warner sale; detailed review of Woodward's 68th sale.

"A Glastonbury Penny of 1820 [Previously] Described as a 'Baltimore Penny' of 1628" by McLachlan; Patterson DuBois' "Moneta", a paper delivered at the ANs; "Hog Money, Etc." also by DuBois; 2 page detailed announcement of Woodward's 69th sale.

4 page index to Volume XIX. Del Mar's "History of Money in China"; "Discovery of a New Piece in the Nova Constellatio Series" - the discovery of the "bit"; announcement's of Woodward's sales 70 to 72; brief book review of Baker's *MEDALLIC PORTRAITS OF WASHINGTON*.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XXI, complete in 4 quarterly issues from July 1886 through April 1887. 96 pp. 4 page index bound in. 150.00

A very scarce volume. A brief by significant article to collectors of cents and colonials, "Collecting American Coins in England"; "[The George Washington] Red Jacket's [Indian Peace] Medal" serial article by Del Mar, "History of Money in China"; serial article by Keary, "Coinage of the British Islands"; "The Mint Cabinet"; serial article with a halftone plate "The French Revolution of 1789 Illustrated by Coins and Medals of the Period" by Parsons; "The Newport Medal"; "Coinage of the Mexican Revolutionary General Morelos" by Lyman Low; "Early Books Published on Numismatics"; reviews of Woodward's sales 81 through 88; review of Edward Maris collection sale; "The Mounting of Coins for Public Collections" by Storer; "[Personnel] Changes at the Mint"; "Collecting American Coins in England"; census of the then 10 known 1804 dollars.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XXII, complete in 4 quarterly issues from July 1887 through April 1888. 100 pp. 4 page index bound in. 150.00

A very scarce volume. Warner serial article on "Communion Tokens" begins here; Letter from Frossard describing a "new" variety of a 1799 cent and a 1796 "no pole"; Lyman Low's "Numismatic Notes"; Obituary of C. Wyliys Betts; brief article on 1804 dollars; "Goethe Medals" by Horatio Storer; an Account of newly discovered Sommer Islands 3d and 6d by Marvin. "Pattern Pieces and the Government", 5 pages concerning the threatened seizure of the Linderman collection; serial article "Oriental Coins with Special Reference to Those of Southern India" by Tuffnell; Obituary of James Carson Brevoort.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XXVI, complete in 4 quarterly issues from July 1891 through April 1892. 96 pp. 4 page index bound in. 125.00

"The New Designs for our Coinage"; Jefferson's April 15, 1790 paper on copper coinage to the House of Representatives; continuation of Storer's serial article on numismatics of the science of medicine; resumption of serial articles on masonic medals; review of McClure's INDEX TO THE COINS AND MEDALS OF THE [MINT] CABINET; "The End of the Trade Dollar"; "Work at the Philadelphia Mint"; "A [American] Revolutionary Peace Medal" in Holland; "Double Denomination Bill"; obituary of Byron Reed.

"International Numismatic Congress at Brussels"; "The Derby Medal of the Boston Latin School"; Hamilton's January 28, 1791 document submitted to the House of Representatives on the "establishment of a Mint"; "The [Private] Issues of Gold Coins in the United States" with a line-drawn plate; "Hacienda Tokens"; 2-page obituary of Jeremiah Colburn with a halftone frontis portrait; Walters' serial article, "Medallic Memorials of the Great Comets"; "The New Silver Coins [of 1892]" with a line-drawn plate; an extract from a Hamilton paper before the House in January 1791 about the defraying the cost of silver for coinage; Account and commentary of the Thomas Warner collection of Communion tokens; expansive obituary of William Elliot Woodward; "How Did the Ancients Strike their Coins?" 5pp.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XXIX, complete in 4 quarterly issues from July 1894 through April 1895. 132 pp. 4 page index bound in. 100.00

"A Supplement to the Sketch of the Coinage of Morelos"; continuation of Storer's serial article on numismatics of the science of medicine; the Venezuelan Columbian medal with halftone plate; "The Coin Cabinet at the Philadelphia Mint"; "The 'Upper Canada Preserved' Medal" by McLachlan; "The Admiral Vernon Medals" with a frontis portrait; "Notes on Medals Described by Mr. Betts"; "Halfpenny of Upper Canada Restrike" by McLachlan; serial article on masonic medals; obituary of Matthew Stickney; "DuSimitiere on Early Continental Medals".

"The Beginnings of United States Coinage" by Charles Tatman, 7pp.; "Restrikes at the French Mint"; "The Movement to Improve the Designs on our Coinage"; "The Silver Coins and the Mints of Spanish-America 1772 to 1825" by Sam. Smith, Jr., 14pp.; Serial article, "The Signification of Certain Ancient Monetary Types" by Svoronos; "The 'Honos et Virtus' Medal and the Restrikes of the French Mint"; obituary of Reginald Stuart Poole.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XXXII, complete in 4 quarterly issues. July 1897 through April 1898. 120 pp. 4 page index bound in. 100.00

Crosby's "Half Cents of 1793"; "American Fur Company's Indian Medals"; two entries on "Dollars of 1804"; "Annual Assay Medals of the United States" by Edmund Cleveland, a complete 4-page monograph; 1897 Cuban souvenir Peso; Jenny Lind Medal; "Ten Undescribed Spanish-American Proclamation Pieces" by Benjamin Betts; "Swedish Cooper Plate-Money" by Robert Shells; "British Jubilee Medals"; continuation of Storer's serial article on numismatics of the science of medicine; serial article on masonic medals.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XLII, complete in 4 quarterly issues from 1907-1908. 156 pp. 4 page index bound in. 100.00

"The Recent Development of Medallic Art"; "The Stock of Gold in the United States"; "Platinum Forgeries of Gold Coins"; a detailed review of the Stickney sale; obituary of Augustus St. Gaudens; ANS resumes publishing the AJN; "A Numismatic Museum in New York" - the new home of the ANS; "The New Gold Coinage"; a history of the gold eagle; "Hebrew Influence on Gold Coinage"; "The Coinage of Portugal" by Hazlitt; continuation of Storer's serial article on numismatics of the science of medicine; serial article, "Notes on the Money of China and Its Dependencies" by Silvestre; "Some Undescribed American Medals" in the Ulex collection; "Cincinnati

Mining and Trading Company and other Private Gold Pieces"; brief obituary of George Heath.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume XLIII, complete in 4 quarterly issues. 1908-1909. 164 pp. 4 page index bound in. 125.00

An extremely important volume. "Notes on the Money of China and its Dependencies" by Silvestre; "The Collection of American Insignia in the American Numismatic Society Cabinet" by Bauman Belden, 4 halftone/linedrawn plates, 6pp.; "New Lincoln Medals": detailed account of Elder's James B. Wilson sale; serial article "The Origin of Coinage" by Svoronos, many pages; "A Bit of Mint History", a reprint of a rare 1825 pamphlet; "The Controversy over 'Communion Tokens'"; Agnes Baldwin's monograph, "Facing Heads on Greek Coins", 20pp., 4 halftone pls. (In issue no. 3); "The Lincoln Cents"; Obituary of Dr. Thomas Hall; "The Hudson-Fulton Medal", halftone plate, 5pp.; "Dealers [and] the United States Mint".

FREY'S CLASSIC DATED COINAGE PRIOR TO 1501

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS and Proceedings of the American Numismatic Society. 1913. Volume XLVII. 1914 4to, original tan CaC. 168, lx pp. 12 pls. 75.00

Contents: The was the first appearance, and still the best edition, of Albert Frey's classic, illustrated 91-page monograph, THE DATED EUROPEAN COINAGE PRIOR TO 1501.

Also, "The Late Louis Oscar Roty. His Life Work and His Influence on the Past and Future of Medallic Art" by George Frederick Kunz; "Coin and Medals in the United States" by Thomas L. Comarette (with 6 plates); "Paper Money Issued by the Sutlers in the Federal Armies during the Civil War" by Howland Wood (3 pp.); "William T. R. Marvin, L.H.D., a Biography". A most important volume.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. 1919. Volume LIII, Part II. 1920. 4to, original tan CaC. 42 pp. 2 fine pls. 100.00

The entire issue consists of Edward T. Newell's "Myriandos - Alexandria Kat'Isson". This coinage, which preceded the Alexander coinage struck in Tarsos, was struck by the Persian satrap Mazaios. This is a very scarce issue.

BALDWIN'S ELUSIVE MONOGRAPH ON COINAGE OF LAMPSAKOS

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF NUMISMATICS. Volume LIII, Thrd (Final) Part. 1924. 4to, original tan CaC. 77 pp. 10 fine plates. 125.00

The entire issue consists of "Lampsakos; the Gold Staters, Silver and Bronze Coinage" by Agnes Baldwin. An extremely scarce issue. Always in demand, this volume has many sales records over \$100 with more than a few at up to \$250.

Due to space limitations (and our desire to save several rain forests' worth of paper), we are unable to list the contents of the individual issues of the AJN offered singly at \$15.00.

OTHER NEAT STUFF FOR SALE FROM THE MONEY TREE

[1] The Christle's/Sotheby's auction catalogue of the BYRON REED collection.

We offered this catalogue in our previous listing in OUT ON A LIMB. It sold out quite quickly. We were able to obtain a few more mint copies of the legendary Byron Reed Collection of Important American Coins and Manuscripts conducted by Christle's Spink America. As the catalogue was issued at \$50.00, and as only a very few copies were distributed gratis, they are quite scarce.

These are handsome catalogues with excellent production values: large format, bound in maroon cloth with gilt lettering, with illustrated dust jackets, 239 pages 572 lots, with 174 lots of coins illustrated on both sides in color. We are selling these new copies for \$35.00, each with a photocopy of the PRL.

[2] CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT CAPPED BUST HALF DOLLARS by Keith Davignon

We also are selling Keith Davignon's long-awaited tome on counterfeit capped bust half dollars. A decade in the writing, this is the definitive work on the topic. The book brings to the collector the history of contemporary counterfeits, methods of detecting bogus halves, contemporary coin counterfeits and the law, and the crooks and their coins. A special feature is a 90-page "Catalogue of Die Varieties" illustrated descriptive cataloguing of all 360 known counterfeit half dollars by die variety.

The book will soon be in major demand as Sheridan Downey will be offering two consignments of counterfeit "busties" totaling 33 pieces including several rarities and 2 new varieties in his upcoming January 1998 auction. A 23-piece lot is from a consignor with access to the stock of New Netherlands in the 1950's and 1960's. The pieces can be viewed at Downey's table at F.U.N. in January. Upon the appearances of the Downey offering, the demand for this work will increase significantly. Published by our good friends at the Money Tree Press, the large format, clothbound 159 page book with 45 plates and text illustrations retails for \$60.00. We are offering a publisher's discount with individual copies for \$45.00.

[3] One of 40 individually numbered copies of CONTEMPORARY COUNTERFEIT CAPPED BUST HALF DOLLARS, each signed by Keith Davignon.

Only a very few copies remain. Retailing at \$75.00, we are offering these copies at our publisher's discount for \$60.00 each.

[4] Remy Bourne. The Library of R.V. (DICK) PUNCHARD. The Definitive United States Early American Copper Literature Sale of the 20th Century.

This auction catalogue is an irreplaceable reference for the collector of early American copper coinage and its numismatic literature. The sale was conducted in Minneapolis on September 1 & 2, 1997. Truly an heroic effort: 1476 lots on 166 pages; with an extraordinary amount of detailed, descriptive text; introductions by Dave Bowers and John Adams; a Punchard biography; a full-color cover illustration of Dick Punchard; detailed indexes; extensive provenancing, text illustrations, and of course the superb offerings. Mark Borckardt of Bowers and Merena submitted an important three-page monograph which is laid in the catalogue, "IMPORTANT EARLY LARGE CENT SALES", a listing of all auction catalogues and FPL's which had at least 5 condition census early date large cents.

I cannot overemphasize the historic importance of this sale. This would be by far the largest, most comprehensive sale of numismatic literature devoted to a single topic of which I am familiar. The November 15, 1997 issue of PENNY-WISE contains Pete Smith's article "The Copper Literature Sale of the Century", (pages 283-286) his authoritative account of the Punchard sale.

Every collector of numismatic literature, every copper specialist must have this catalogue in his or her library. From my experience in cataloguing, this was clearly more than a job for Remy; this was a labor of love.

We are offering NEW copies, autographed by Dick Punchard (below his picture on page 3, with a PRL for \$25.00.

[5] Jack Collins' Fixed Price List Featuring Selections from the Collection of WASHINGTONIA from the Estate of F.C.C. BOYD formerly the property of JOHN J. FORD, JR. together with Important Consignments from Several Prominent Numismatists.

This is a numismatic classic. Published in 1991, it is in large format with glossy white card covers, lettered in gilt with a handsome portrait of Washington on the cover. 50 pages, 702 lots, and 36 halftone plates.

It is the most extensive catalogue of Coins, medals, tokens and badges ever of Washingtonia. Over seven hundred different varieties, all meticulously attributed and catalogued, including numerous items previously unlisted in either the Baker or Rulau/Fuld references. Nearly five hundred examples are superbly photographed, many never before illustrated. [mostly cribbed from the title page]. The contents also include a 2 page biography of Boyd and a superb 2 page bibliography.

No superlatives exist to express properly the superb nature of this reference. This list ranks in the top rank of the most important FPLs ever offered in the history of American numismatics. It has already become a major reference for collectors of Washingtonia. This is a combination of superb offerings, superb cataloguing, and superb presentation.

It is especially useful as Stack's and Coin Galleries have recently sold Collins' reference collection of Washingtonia.

Printed in a limited quantity by the late Mr. Collins, we are offering new copies at \$60.00.

[6] George Kolbe's catalogue of selected rarities from the ARMAND CHAMPA library exhibited at the 100th anniversary A.N.A. convention in Chicago, 1991.

Its specific title was, CATALOGUE OF AN EXHIBITION OF "NUMISMATICA AMERICANA" COMPRISING BOOKS, PERIODICALS, SALE CATALOGUES & MEMORABILIA FROM THE LIBRARY OF ARMAND CHAMPA, HELD DURING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS AT THE ROSEMONT-O'HARE CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION CENTER. AUGUST 13TH TO AUGUST 18TH, 1991. This exhibition booklet was prepared by George Kolbe to accompany Armand Champa's non-competitive 48 case exhibit at the centennial convention of the A.N.A.

The 6 1/4 by 9 1/2 inch catalogue has thick gray card covers with the cover lettering impressed in rainbow colored foil. 119 selections are authoritatively described in 4 categories: books, periodicals and FPL's, auction catalogues, and memorabilia &

miscellaneous. Among the rarities described in the catalogue are Sylvester Crosby's own Crosby, 1869 and 1870 editions of Maris; the legendary Thian album; the W.W.C. Wilson sale with 45 plates. The exhibit was by far both the largest and most valuable display ever at an A.N.A. convention [or any convention that we are aware of] of numismatic literature. The 46 page catalogue includes a masterful introduction by Mr. Kolbe. Surprisingly, many collectors are unaware of this little jewel. A copy belongs in every numismatic library. We offer NEW copies for \$12.00.

[7 & 8] BOWERS AND RUDDY/MERENA RARE COIN REVIEW, THE FIRST 100 ISSUES. AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY written by Ken Lowe (Hey!, that's me!)

This is a 100 page, large format, card-covered annotated bibliography of over 430 significant numismatic articles published in the first 100 issues of the RCR. While there are hundreds of important numismatic articles in its pages, most collectors have seriously undervalued the RARE COIN REVIEW's because of the lack of a systematic index for its issues. Included are four separate indexes: alphabetically according to title (this one annotated), by subject, by author, and by issue number. Substantive introductions by Q.D.B., Mark Borckardt, Wayne Homren, Remy Bourne, and yours truly precede the index.

The first printing was limited to 50 copies, 30 of them numbered and signed. [7] Each of the remaining 30 copies is \$25.00 [8] The unnumbered unsigned copies are \$20.00. For the record, a second printing of 100 copies was prepared for Bowers and Merena. The card covers of The Money Tree first printing offered here are tan with black printing. The covers of the Bowers and Merena second printing are mottled green. Copies of the second edition are available from Bowers and Merena for \$20.00.

[9] Fred Reed III, CIVIL WAR ENCASED STAMPS. THE ISSUERS AND THEIR TIMES.

This 1995 masterpiece is subtitled "Comprising a History, Merchant Chronicle Catalog, Auction Summary and Counterfeit Guide to John Gault's Patent Mineral and Metal Store Card Emergency Money of 1862". The book is 550 pages, profusely illustrated, 6 1/4 by 9 1/4 inches, in green cloth, lettered and stamped in gilt.

Published by the BNR Press, the result of three decades of work, this definitive reference is a work of extraordinary numismatic importance, as well as a magnificent historical document. For the collector, this also includes important appendices: pricing & rarity, major institutional collections, a catalog of ancillary items. Of special importance is the 50 page annotated bibliography. This superb book retails for \$60.00. We offer NEW copies for \$48.00.

[10] Russell Rulau and George Fuld. MEDALLIC PORTRAITS OF WASHINGTON.

This large format 1985 work has heavy card covers printed in rust, white, and black: 307 pages, profusely illustrated with valuations. New!

Subtitled "An illustrated, priced revision of W.S. Baker's 1885 catalog of the coins, medals and tokens of the Father of his Country." This is in the format of the other Rulau token works. In Stack's FIXED PRICE LIST, SUMMER 1997, they noted that this is Out of print and now quite scarce. They listed it at \$65.00. We are offering NEW copies at \$30.00.

[11] Pete Smith. BUILDING, MAINTAINING AND DISPOSING OF A NUMISMATIC LIBRARY.

The large format 62-page work has glossy white card covers, lettered and illustrated in black. Among the contents of its 12 chapters are the history of numismatic literature, types and varieties of numismatic literature, types of numismatic libraries, sources of numismatic literature, organizing and maintaining a numismatic library, disposition of a numismatic library, the history of book production, publishing numismatic references, literature about literature, a glossary, and an index.

Pete Smith is a prominent and prolific American numismatic author. He wrote the unprecedented and out-of-print AMERICAN NUMISMATIC BIBLIOGRAPHIES, also THE STORY OF THE STARRED REVERSE CENT, and NAMES WITH NOTES (biographical sketches of important large cent people). He has a monthly column in THE NUMISMATIST -- "Names in Numismatics". Pete is also a regular contributor to PENNY-WISE.

Printed in extremely limited quantities, this modestly priced title is the only one-volume reference on the topic. We recommend this highly for all numismatic bibliophiles whether you are a novice, intermediate collector, or an advanced bibliophile. In Mr. Smith's words, "The 'Golden Age' of numismatic literature is now." We are offering NEW copies autographed by Pete Smith for \$15.00. [Copies without the autograph are \$30.00].

ARMAND CHAMPA'S LIST OF THE RAREST BOOKS IN AMERICAN
NUMISMATICS

While numismatic bibliomaniacs are quite familiar with the stature of Armand Champa's superb numismatic library, relatively few are aware of the extent of Armand's extensive research about American numismatic literature. Armand's research was enhanced by John Adams' classic 2-volume work on American numismatic auction catalogues and also by Martin Gengerke's heroic AMERICAN NUMISMATIC AUCTIONS. Those who saw his annotated copies of Adams, Gengerke, and Attinelli will well remember the seemingly infinite number of multi-colored highlighted notes he had made inside those pages. Armand was proud of his having completed collecting everything in Adams' Volume I. He was particularly proud of having collected at least 275 "Attinelli" auction catalogues from 1851 through 1875. I believe that he had also completed Adams' Volume II.

Armand did not merely collect auction catalogues to "fill in holes". What he did was to go through each catalogue, making a record of each listing of rare, classic, and important pieces of numismatic literature: books, catalogues, journals, etc. He made his handwritten notes and listings on hundreds of 5" by 7" file cards. Thus, Armand went through thousands upon thousands of catalogues making notes on offerings of literature in Woodward, Low, Elder, Chapman, Kosoff, Steigerwalt, and also in many less well-known and "obscure" sales.

What is currently accepted as the authoritative "census" of complete sets of THE NUMISMATIST came largely from Armand's research and notes. Armand not only loved his literature, Armand knew his literature. While he was not a classically trained researcher, he was self-taught, enthusiastic, methodical, and knowledgeable. And sadly, he was and still is vastly underrated and underappreciated for his knowledge by too many who took him much too lightly, who could not see past his 8th grade education.

Incidentally, Armand's "bible" was the 2-part Katen sale of the Fuld Library. The two Fuld sales catalogues were his ever-present companions, his choice of reading on at least 25 cross-country flights from Louisville to California & Las Vegas.

Armand was a most generous man, not only monetarily and socially. Armand loved to share his knowledge and research. Beginning with this issue of LIMB, we will regularly feature Armand's research and observations.

As noted in the title of this article, this is a listing of what Armand's research had determined to be the rarest books in American numismatics based on his more than 25-year survey of auction/FPL offerings. Is this listing definitive? Maybe not. Is it credible? It is credible enough that Armand backed up his observations with his wallet. So for your consideration, here is Armand's list. Enjoy. We offer this list and the upcoming serial Champa research material in a sincere spirit of sharing information. We are always open to honest differences of opinion. Do you have a different list? Do you wish to challenge any or all of the listings? Do you have any questions or are there any comments you would like to express? Please, feel free to contact us with your thoughts and observations on this listing. We welcome your participation. Enjoy.

THE ARMAND CHAMPA CENSUS: THE DOZEN RAREST BOOKS IN AMERICAN NUMISMATICS

1. Raphael Thian. REGISTER OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES TREASURY NOTES. 1880
2. Edward Maris. VARIETIES OF THE COPPER ISSUES OF THE U.S. MINT IN THE YEAR 1794. 1870, 2nd ed.
3. Dr. William Lee. THE CURRENCY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA. 1875.
4. Frank Andrews. AN ARRANGEMENT OF UNITED STATES COPPER CENTS 1816-1857. 1881.
5. S.H. Chapman. THE CENTS OF THE YEAR 1794. 1923.
6. A.W. Browning. THE EARLY QUARTER DOLLARS OF THE UNITED STATES 1796-1925. 1925: deluxe edition in full leather.
7. Edgar A. Adams and William Woodin. UNITED STATES PATTERN, TRIAL, AND EXPERIMENTAL PIECES. 1913: deluxe interleaved edition.
8. D.W. Valentine. "FRACTIONAL CURRENCY" OF THE UNITED STATES. Volumes 1 & 2. 1924: deluxe edition, leatherbound.
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